



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Reaction to President Bush's 27 Sep Address

Kaifu 'Strongly Supports' Proposal

OW2809031891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0308 GMT
28 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 28 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu welcomed Saturday a proposal on nuclear arms cuts by U.S. President George Bush, saying it will help enhance peace in the world.

"Japan praises a bold and courageous initiative by President Bush and strongly supports the proposal as a step toward the total elimination of nuclear arms," Kaifu said in a statement.

Bush proposed the elimination of land- and sea-based short-range nuclear arms and deep cuts in strategic nuclear arsenals by the United States and the Soviet Union.

Kaifu called on the Soviet leadership to quickly and clearly accept the Bush proposal.

He said he hoped the balanced curtailment of nuclear arms by Washington and Moscow will be achieved while maintaining effective deterrence.

He also expressed hope U.S.-Soviet relations will become even more stable through the Bush initiative and bring more peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

Government sources said the proposal will contribute to forming a new order in the world. But they are concerned about the future of Japan's security treaty with the U.S. if the Bush proposal is completely achieved.

If this happened, the sources said they thought a new arrangement with Washington would be required.

The United States notified Japan in advance of Bush's proposal on nuclear arms cuts, Foreign Ministry sources said Saturday.

The sources said a letter handed to Kaifu by U.S. Ambassador to Japan Michael Armacost on Friday evening included the arms-reduction proposal made by Bush on Friday night.

Japan was also informed in advance of the proposal by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in New York, they said.

Meanwhile, Hiroshima Mayor Takashi Hiraoka welcomed the arms reduction proposal and said he hopes Washington and Moscow will continue efforts toward total elimination of nuclear weapons.

Nagasaki Mayor Hiroshi Motoshima also told reporters he strongly supports the Bush initiative and hopes the reduction will be realized as early as possible.

Motoshima said he hopes nuclear weapons will be totally eliminated this century and he would like to ask the U.S. and the Soviet Union to take the initiative in leading other countries besides Britain, France, and China toward complete eradication.

No Defense Changes Forseen

OW3009100591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0947 GMT
30 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—U.S. President George Bush's announced nuclear arms cuts will not prompt "fundamental changes" in Japan's defense policy or Japan-U.S. security arrangements, a top Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada told a press conference that the announced cuts are not of a nature which would necessitate such changes.

As for the Japan-U.S. security relationship, Owada denied that the cuts would undermine the so-called U.S. nuclear umbrella over Japan, noting that Washington intends to maintain an effective level of nuclear deterrence.

As for Japan's policy of striving to reach a minimum level of defensive capability, Owada noted that the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) are geared toward warding off an act of aggression against Japan where conventional, not nuclear weapons, are employed.

Last Friday, Bush announced plans to eliminate the entire U.S. stock of land-based, short-range nuclear weapons and called for deep cuts in the strategic nuclear arsenals of the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

He also announced that the U.S. will withdraw all tactical nuclear weapons and all nuclear Tomahawk cruise missiles from its surface ships and attack submarines.

A top Foreign Ministry source said that the implications of the cuts will be analyzed in regular defense consultations with the U.S., adding that there is no need to call an urgent session of talks.

Administrators, Dietmen React Positively

OW2809135191 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] With respect to the arms-reduction proposal announced today [27 September] by U.S. President George Bush, interested persons in the nation commented on a question of U.S. nuclear arms brought into Japan as follows:

[Begin recording] [Hisashi Owada, administrative vice foreign minister] As you know, the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty stipulates that, if nuclear arms are brought into Japan, Japan must be informed of this in advance, and Japan has a right to say no. This policy has been in effect heretofore, and it will not change in the future. Generally speaking, removal of strategic nuclear arms, including

those on vessels, will lessen public suspicion against nuclear weapons on U.S. vessels coming to Japan.

[Kosuke Uehara, chairman of the Security Policy Committee of the Social Democratic Party of Japan] The United States has decided to withdraw short-range nuclear missiles and land-based tactical missiles, which are currently deployed all over the world. Taking into account that there are so many U.S. bases in Japan and the fact that many U.S. warships and submarines call at ports in Japan, I cannot help thinking that some nuclear arms must have been brought into the country.

Since both the United States and the Soviet Union still claim the need for nuclear deterrent power, we should carefully determine our future course of action. However, the Social Democratic Party of Japan maintains its principle to call for a complete abolition of nuclear arms, and we will make steady efforts to achieve the goal by working on policymaking process of the country and by appealing to world opinion.

[Masahide Ota, governor of Okinawa Prefecture] It is officially said that nuclear arms were removed from Okinawa when the prefecture was returned to Japan. However, a later survey indicated that more than 50 percent of Okinawan people still feel that some form of nuclear weapons might remain on the island. In connection with the anxiety of the people, President Bush's announcement is heartily welcomed.

[Takashi Hiraoka, mayor of Hiroshima] The United States must have eventually come to understand the terror of nuclear arms. I believe that voices of Hiroshima citizens and all other pacifists around the world have contributed to the latest move by the United States. Taking this opportunity, we strongly wish the world to start moving toward a complete abolition of nuclear arms. [end recording]

Parties Welcome Arms Cuts

OW2809114891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1106 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 28 KYODO—Japan's ruling and opposition parties welcomed Saturday U.S. President George Bush's disarmament proposal to unilaterally eliminate its land-based tactical nuclear weapons and remove short-range atomic arms from ships.

Keizo Obuchi, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, termed the proposal a "courageous decision" which will contribute to world peace and stability.

Obuchi expressed hope that the Soviet Union will respond to Bush's proposal and take corresponding steps.

Japan hopes that not only the superpowers, but all other nations possessing or planning to produce nuclear weapons will follow the American lead.

The No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party said Bush's proposal could lead to superpower negotiations for mutual reduction of nuclear arms.

Noting that Bush's proposal involves withdrawal of tactical nuclear missiles deployed in South Korea, the party urged North Korea to accept on-site inspection of nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency, paving the way for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Komeito, the No. 2 opposition party, called Bush's overture a bold, epoch-making step, marking a turnabout of Washington's global nuclear strategy which could spur moves toward disarmament worldwide.

The party expressed hope that the United States will take comprehensive measures toward reduction of strategic nuclear arms.

The Democratic Socialist Party, welcoming the proposal, urged the Soviet Union to coordinate with the United States towards the abolishment of nuclear arms worldwide.

The party expressed hope that the two superpowers will implement nuclear disarmament in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Japanese Communist Party called the proposal encouraging to world peace.

The party demanded that the two superpowers and other developed nations start negotiations on concrete terms for the abolishment of nuclear arms.

It said Bush's proposal proved an end to the East-West Cold War era.

DPRK Urged To Accept Nuclear Inspections

OW3009032291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Japan urged North Korea Monday to accept international inspection of its nuclear facilities in response to U.S. plans to reduce its nuclear arsenal in South Korea.

"America's decision will have a big impact on North Korea, and I think the environment makes it easier to accept nuclear inspections," Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto told a news conference.

The top government spokesman and other officials also were optimistic that the U.S. initiative, announced Friday, would also give new momentum to Japan's negotiations on normalizing relations with North Korea.

"The (announcement) is very good for Japan-North Korean talks. It has removed the thorn from normalization negotiations," a senior government official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Pyongyang's refusal to open its facilities for inspection has been a major obstacle in 10-month-old talks on

establishing relations between Japan and North Korea for the first time since the Korean peninsula was divided after World War II.

U.S. President George Bush announced Friday that nuclear arms cuts would apply to weapons in South Korea.

The U.S. had previously rebuffed North Korea's demand that nuclear weapons be removed from South Korea as a condition for inspections by strictly adhering to its policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence of nuclear arms at specific military sites.

LDP To Stress Passage of Peacekeeping Bill

OW2809055391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0525 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Sapporo, Sept. 28 KYODO—A top official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said Saturday the party will try to enact the controversial bill that would allow Japan to send troops overseas for UN peacekeeping operations during the current session of the Diet.

LDP Secretary General Keizo Obuchi told a news conference here the enactment of the legislation is necessary in light of a strong possibility peace will be restored in Cambodia this year.

The LDP will seek a short-term extension of the Diet session due to close October 4 to push through the bill if it wins support from two opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party.

A long-term extension is impossible in view of the LDP's presidential election in late October, Obuchi said.

He also said the LDP will have to give up plans to get three political reform bills approved at the current session.

He said the major opposition Social Democratic Party has introduced its own proposal for reduction of seats in the powerful House of Representatives, and the LDP will study a possibility of carrying the bills over to the next session of the Diet.

He declined to comment on whether Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu would step down to take the blame for failing to have the reform bills approved by the Diet.

Obuchi said it is desirable for the governing party to choose its leader in an election and urged would-be candidates to inform the people of their policies.

So far, only former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has announced his intention to run for the party presidency, which carries with it the prime ministership.

PRC, ROK Envoys Concerned Over UN Bill

OW3009102391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0959 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—The ambassadors of China and South Korea on Monday reiterated their concerns regarding the proposed participation of Japanese military in UN peacekeeping operations (PKO), Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said the envoys conveyed their countries' anxieties in separate meetings with Vice Minister Hisashi Owada.

Owada invited them to the ministry for an explanation of the new bill envisaging participation of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) in UN peacekeeping operations.

The bill was submitted to the extraordinary session of the Diet on September 19.

Chinese Ambassador Yang Zhenya was quoted by officials as telling Owada that his country understands Japan's desire to contribute to world peace.

But he added that in light of Japan's past record of militarism, Beijing feels Tokyo should "deal prudently" with the idea of using the SDF to undertake such a task.

South Korean Ambassador to Japan O Chae-hui was also quoted as saying in an earlier meeting with Owada that Seoul is similarly anxious about the overseas dispatch of the SDF and advised caution.

Owada, explaining Japan's basic position on the PKO bill now under discussion in the House of Representatives, told the envoys that Japanese peacekeeping troops are not likely to be sent into situations where the use of force is required.

He said the Japanese Government will draw up plans for sending the SDF overseas, including how to maintain strict control during deployments abroad.

Owada said the bill was drafted with the intention of reinforcing the UN international peacekeeping role.

LDP Group Seeks To Block Rice Market Opening

OW3009112191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1046 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Farm policy planners of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party will visit Geneva next month on a mission to block the opening of Japan's rice market to imports, party officials said Monday.

The officials said the group, led by former Agriculture Minister Tsutomu Hata, will hold talks with Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), in early October.

In talks with Dunkel, the delegation will explain Japan's farm policy aimed at self-sufficiency in rice production and seek exemption for Japan's rice market from liberalization of farm trade, they said.

Dunkel is scheduled to release the so-called Dunkel Paper in early November that will set the stage for a negotiated settlement of the stalled farm trade negotiations under the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks sponsored by the GATT.

The mission's trip will follow a series of meetings between Dunkel and Japanese government officials.

Motoji Kondo, minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, held talks with Dunkel in Geneva in early September. Shigeru Motai, former vice agriculture minister, is scheduled to confer with Dunkel on the issue Tuesday.

Ministry officials said it is necessary for Japan to clarify its stand on the rice issue before Dunkel sets forth proposals in his documents.

The United States and the European Community have moved to reach a compromise agreement based on the imposition of high tariff rates on imported rice in exchange for removal of items under protection by safeguard arrangements, the officials said.

Nakayama Plans 4-Day Visit To Soviet Union

OW2709151991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1447 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Japan's Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama may leave for Moscow as early as October 13 for talks with Soviet leaders on the long-standing issue of disputed islands off Hokkaido and economic assistance to the Soviet Union, Foreign Ministry sources said Thursday.

During the planned four-day visit, Nakayama is scheduled to hold talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, and Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, the sources said.

The Foreign Ministry has almost fixed the dates of Nakayama's visit following negotiations with the central and Russian Governments.

But a definite date has yet to be decided for talks with Russian President Yeltsin who has been taking a two-week rest from his official duties since Wednesday, the sources said. Yeltsin reportedly felt ill with heart problems and canceled his planned speech at Thursday's opening of the Russian legislature.

The ministry sources indicated the possibility of a postponement of Nakayama's visit if talks cannot be secured with Yeltsin.

Nakayama discussed Japan's five-point policy for stepped up assistance to the Soviet Union and Russian Republic in a meeting with Pankin in New York last Monday. Pankin told Nakayama at the meeting the Soviet Union is eager to settle the island dispute.

Firms Prepare for Sakhalin Resources Development

OW2709125691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1242 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Four Japanese corporations formed a consortium Friday to develop natural gas and oil resources on the continental shelf around Sakhalin Island off the Soviet Far East.

The group consists of two major trading houses, C. Itoh and Co. and Marubeni Corp., and oil developers, Japan Petroleum Exploitation and Overseas Petroleum Corp.

The companies decided to inaugurate a joint firm, Sodeco (Sakhalin Oil Development Corp.) Research Co., October 1 to undertake a feasibility study for the project.

The joint venture, initially capitalized at 400 million yen, will participate in a tender on the project to be held by the Soviet Union.

Groups of companies from Japan, the United States, and South Korea are expected to participate in the tender, the Japanese companies said.

If the Japanese fail to win in the tender and the U.S. Exxon Group wins, the government-financed Japan National Oil Corp. will contribute 400 million yen to the winner of the tender to participate in the project.

The winner is scheduled to be announced early October.

First 'Visa-Free' Trip to Soviet Islands Ends

OW2709071691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0627 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Kushiro, Hokkaido, Sept. 27 KYODO—A group of 130 Japanese citizens on Friday ended an 11-day visit to Soviet-controlled islands off northern Japanese shores, the first-ever visa-free civic tour of the islands, members of the group said.

The civic group, "Peace Boat," organized the tour of the four islands north of Hokkaido. The islands have been under Soviet administrative jurisdiction since they were seized by the Soviet Red Army during the last days of World War II.

The tourist group had departed the port of Niigata, the Japanese Prefecture facing the sea of Japan, on September 17 aboard a Soviet cruiser named the Antonina Nezhdanova and visited three of the four islands—Etorofu, Kunashiri and Shikotan.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry, which initially was reluctant to authorize the trip, relented and finally gave its tacit approval in view of the welcome voiced by the Soviet authorities in the province of Sakhalin, which is entrusted by the federal government with administering the four islands, the group said.

Deported PRC Woman Reported 'Living Happily'

*OW3009110991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1046 GMT
30 Sep 91*

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—Japan has received assurances from Beijing that no legal action is being taken against a Chinese woman deported last month despite her bid for political asylum, a Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

Chinese authorities, in reply to an official inquiry, reported earlier this month that Lin Guizhen is "living happily with her family," the official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, declined to give further details saying it could jeopardize her safety.

He said Japan plans to point out to the Chinese authorities from "time to time that we have interest in the fate of Lin Guizhen."

Lin's deportation last month before Japanese courts delivered a final ruling on her application for political asylum invited criticism from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (U.N.HCR) Sadako Ogata, and human rights groups.

The Foreign Ministry official maintained that the deportation was in accordance with Japanese law and said the government knows of "no fact" supporting her claims of joining in pro-democracy rallies.

But he said the government made inquiries about Lin's whereabouts due to international and domestic concerns over her fate.

Lin arrived in Okinawa in September 1989 on board a boat carrying Chinese refugees. In court documents she said she was fleeing possible persecution for participating in pro-democracy demonstrations in the City of Fuzhou.

Lawyers for Lin cautiously welcomed the government's action and said they plan to continue pressuring authorities to ensure that in the future foreign nationals seeking asylum receive due justice.

At the time of her departure August 14, Lin was appealing against a rejection of her bid to obtain political refugee status and was also seeking to overturn a deportation order. Both trials are still proceeding.

Shoji Yanagawa, counsel for Lin, called on the government to make an official announcement on whether her safety has been truly assured.

He said he has not received communication from Lin since her return, although prior to her deportation she promised to write as soon as she reached home.

Shun Hashiba, head of the Japan Civil Liberties Union, said the government should establish personal contact with Lin.

He made the comment shortly after submitting a petition requesting the government ensure Lin's safety and never again deport foreign nationals seeking political refugee status before their applications are ruled on in the courts.

The Foreign Ministry official said the government does not at present feel it is necessary to establish direct contact with Lin but is prepared to cooperate with individuals who wish to do so.

Okinawa Demands Suspension of Plane Redeployment

*OW2709133191 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese
27 Sep 91 Morning Edition p 2*

[Text] Tokyo—In connection with the issue of redeploying transport aircraft of the U.S. forces in the Philippines to Kadena Air base, a delegation from the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly (led by Seiyu Sakihara) called on ministries and agencies concerned, including the Foreign Ministry and the Defense Facilities Administration Agency [DFAA], on 26 September in order to give briefings on Okinawa's actual situation and to demand immediate suspension of the redeployment.

In response, a Foreign Ministry official said that "we are not in a position to request the U.S. forces to suspend its plan." As usual, the ministry reiterated its principled stance on abiding by the Status of Forces Agreement. On the other hand, the DFAA responded to the delegation's demand favorably, and said: "Other ministries and agencies will be informed of your demand."

The delegation called at the U.S. Embassy and the Okinawa Development Agency and on Diet members from Okinawa to make the same request, and is also scheduled to call at the headquarters of the U.S. Forces Japan for the same purpose on 27 September.

KYODO Elected President of OANA Group

*OW2709100691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0946 GMT
27 Sep 91*

[Text] Oyama, Shizuoka Pref., Sept. 27 KYODO—The head of Japan's KYODO news service was elected president of a group of 25 news agencies in the Asian-Pacific region Friday on the fourth and final day of its conference in Gotemba, west of Tokyo.

KYODO's President, Yasuhiko Inukai, took over the leadership of the Organization of Asian-Pacific News Agencies (OANA) for a three-year term from Indonesia's ANTARA news agency.

He said, "it is to be hoped that OANA will play an even greater role at a time when turbulent world changes are having a major impact on Asian countries."

The conference, attended by representatives of 18 of the member news agencies from 16 countries, also accepted an offer by the official Chinese news agency, XINHUA, to host

its next general assembly in Beijing in 1994. Iran's official news agency, IRNA, was elected a vice president of the organization.

Established in 1961 on the initiative of the U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to promote mutual exchanges among news agencies in the Asia-Pacific region, OANA groups 25 agencies from 20 countries.

Its activities include the training of journalists and engineers and the holding of editorial and engineering workshops. The member agencies exchange news and photographs through the Asian News Network (ANN) to which each agency contributes 1,700 words per day. OANA holds a general assembly every three years.

Costa Rican Vice President Arrives 29 Sep

OW2909052791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0452 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., Sept. 29 KYODO—Costa Rica's Second Vice President Arnoldo Lopez Echandi arrived at Narita International Airport on Sunday morning for a week-long visit to Japan at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry.

During his stay, Lopez is scheduled to meet with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and other government leaders.

This is the second time Lopez has visited Japan, Foreign Ministry officials said. His last trip was in November of last year when he and President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier attended the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito.

Foreign, Trade Ministers Meet Iranian Delegation

LD2809165291 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] The Iran-Japan parliamentary friendship delegation in the Islamic Consultative Assembly [Majlis], which is in Tokyo on an official visit, held separate meetings with the Japanese foreign affairs and international trade and industry ministers.

The Japanese foreign minister, while meeting with the delegation, assessed the two countries' relations as positive and called for necessary efforts to pursue further expansion of bilateral ties. Persian Gulf issues were also reviewed during the meeting, and the Iranian delegation leader considered the full implementation of [UN] Resolution 598 as the guarantee for establishing peace and stability in the region, and stressed our country's stand on the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf region.

The Japanese minister for international trade and industry, in the meeting with the delegation, expressed satisfaction over efforts made to expand the two countries' economic and financial cooperation.

Exchange Agreement With UK Chambers of Commerce

OW2709134191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1302 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—The Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Friday concluded a cooperation agreement to exchange economic information with the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, the Japanese Chamber announced.

Rokuro Ishikawa, chairman of the Japanese Chamber, and D.M. Middleton, president of the British association, signed the agreement in London on Friday.

The agreement calls for an information swap on economic trends and other related matters in the two countries.

The new accord is the seventh to be concluded by the Japanese Chamber with an overseas chamber of commerce.

New Ambassadors Appointed To Sudan, Gabon

OW2709040091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0249 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—The Government on Friday appointed Toshiro Ogushi as ambassador to Sudan and Tsukasa Abe as ambassador to Gabon.

Ogushi, 59, who succeeds Taizan Araki as envoy to Sudan, joined the Foreign Ministry in 1954 and had been ambassador to Bahrain since January 1989.

Abe, 60, replaces Hideo Kakinuma as envoy to Gabon. Abe joined the ministry in 1953 and held his former post as ambassador to Guinea since July 1989.

LDP, Opposition Agree To Kill Reform Bills

OW3009122991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1206 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and opposition parties agreed Monday to scrap a package of political reform bills designed mainly to introduce a single-seat constituency system in the House of Representatives at the current Diet session.

Hikosaburo Okonogi, chairman of the lower house's special committee on political reform, proposed scrapping the bills to directors of the committee from both the governing party and opposition parties.

The package is a major agenda item in the current extraordinary Diet session, which ends Friday, and the discarding of the bills would deal a blow to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who said he would stake his career on political reform.

The failure to enact the bills in the current Diet session will affect the presidential election of the LDP scheduled for next month. Kaifu's two-year term as LDP president expires October 30.

The LDP presidency carries with it the post of prime minister by virtue of the party's majority in the powerful lower house.

Basic recognition on political reform and opinions on the electoral system are at variance among parties and it is impossible to implement sufficient debate on the package because the current Diet session is expiring, Okonogi said.

Okonogi told reporters that he made the decision without consulting anyone and that it is difficult to adjust the deliberation schedule.

The LDP will propose that opposition parties create a consultation body for political reform at a meeting of chairmen of Diet affairs committees Tuesday and a meeting of secretaries general Thursday, LDP sources said.

The special committee began discussions on the three government-proposed political reform bills September 13.

The opposition parties disagreed with the introduction of a single-seat system into the lower house and even some LDP lawmakers expressed objections to the system during deliberations.

The package is designed to overhaul Japan's electoral system, tighten control on political funds, and provide subsidies to political parties.

The election bill would reduce the size of the lower house to 471 members from the present 512 by introducing a system of single-seat election districts and proportional representation districts.

Under the proposed bill, the current 130 multiple-seat constituencies in the lower house would be converted into 300 single-seat constituencies. The remaining 171 seats would be decided through a proportional representation system.

The government drafted the bills to restore public trust in politics, battered by the 1989 influence-peddling recruitment scandal in which top LDP figures as well as opposition leaders were tainted.

Kaifu said the package was drafted to make election campaigns less costly.

Kaifu assumed his post after the LDP suffered a major setback in elections in the wake of the scandal. He was picked because of his clean image.

Under the current multiple-seat constituency, personal rivalries determine campaigns, not political differences, Kaifu said.

Business Leaders Regret Action

OW3009123791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1208 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 30 KYODO—The business community expressed regret Monday over the scrapping of political reform bills by the Diet due to a lack of enough time for debate.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said it is "extremely regrettable" that the legislation has become void.

Rokuro Ishikawa, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, calling political reform the most urgent task facing the country today, said "it is an act of betraying the people's expectations."

Keidanren and other major business organizations in June urged the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to carry the bills through the Diet as early as possible.

The bills, including the introduction of single-seat constituencies for the law-making House of Representatives and elimination of money politics, were aimed at restoring public confidence in politics, badly damaged by a series of scandals.

The business groups expressed the hope that ruling and opposition parties will make concerted efforts to realize political reform in the near future.

Watanabe Hints at Forming 3-Faction Alliance

OW2609162991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1517 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO— Michio Watanabe, prime ministerial aspirant and a faction leader in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), on Thursday hinted at the possibility of forming an alliance with two other LDP factions to block Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu from continuing in office for another two-year term.

Watanabe, former finance minister, dropped the hint on a television news program videotaped for an upcoming broadcast.

"If the three factions can iron out differences in opinions, establishing an alliance among them is possible," Watanabe said.

His statement came the day after powerful LDP politician Shin Kanemaru implied that the LDP's biggest faction, formed by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, might throw its weight behind Kaifu. Kanemaru, a close associate of Takeshita, chairs the faction.

Earlier on Wednesday, Kanemaru upset the LDP's prime ministerial contenders by telling a meeting of

veteran party parliamentarians, "we cannot ignore the high popularity rating enjoyed by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu."

He also told the senior lawmakers, "the time has gone when we were allowed to select the prime minister and LDP president in view of the opinions (of politicians) in Nagata-cho."

The LDP's presidential election is drawing near as Kaifu's term expires on October 31. The presidency carries the prime ministership with it due to the LDP's stable majority in the powerful 512-member House of Representatives.

Watanabe is heading his own faction. He took over the faction's leadership from his close political ally, former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, after the Recruit bribery scandal forced Nakasone from the political center stage.

Watanabe denounced the political handlings of the Kaifu administration for "lacking the ability to foresee what is to come and being overprudent."

He cast doubts about whether the Takeshita faction will maintain its support for Kaifu by saying, "it is still unclear whether the Takeshita faction can maintain its willingness to back the Kaifu administration for the coming two to three years."

Meanwhile, another prime ministerial hopeful Kiichi Miyazawa said at a plenary meeting of all parliamentarians belonging to his faction that he would formally announce his candidacy for the LDP presidency on October 5.

Miyazawa will start campaigning throughout the nation on October 7, kicking off his tour in Hiroshima and Fukuyama.

Mitsuzuka Stresses Electing LDP President

OW2709122091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1210 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—The head of the second-largest faction within the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] repeated Friday his determination to run in next month's party presidential election and underlined the next party president must be decided by an election.

Hiroshi Mitsuzuka made the comment in a recording session for a TV program.

The LDP General Council decided the same day the time table of the party presidential election.

If that decision should be neglected and the next LDP leader chosen through negotiations among the intraparty faction leaders behind the closed door, Mitsuzuka said it would be a betrayal to the 1.75 million full and associate members who have the right to participate in the election to pick the party president.

According to the General Council decision, the party will declare the start of the election campaign on October 19, and the balloting date is set for October 27. The party will also have a convention on October 29 to report the result of the election.

While Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is likely to seal another term as LDP President, Mitsuzuka and former chairman of [the] party's Policy Affairs Research Council Michio Watanabe, leader of the No. 4 faction, are expected to officially declare their candidacy for the election after October 4.

Former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has already declared his intention to run for the presidential election.

The LDP presidency leads to the post of prime minister because of the party's stable majority in the powerful House of Representatives.

Kanamaru Reaffirms Support for Kaifu's Reelection

OW2809120991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Kagoshima, Sept. 28 KYODO—Influential conservative politician Shin Kanamaru again indicated Saturday that he will support Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's bid for reelection as president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP].

In a lecture in the southern city of Kagoshima, Kanamaru said the party should honor public opinion in choosing its leader. "Selection according to the will of politicians alone betrays the principle of democracy," he said.

Kanamaru, leader of the LDP's most powerful faction, apparently was referring to high public support for Kaifu's cabinet in recent opinion polls.

Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, founder of the 106-member faction, said in a speech in Tokushima, Shikoku, on Saturday he has no intention at all to run for the ruling party presidency.

The LDP presidency carries with it the post of prime minister because of the party's stable majority in the House of Representatives.

The LDP will hold a presidential election on October 27, three days before Kaifu's two-year term as party leader is due to expire.

Kanamaru said he is opposed to the selection of a new leader through back-stage negotiations among senior leaders only. The new president should be elected in an election, he said.

4-Way Fight Expected in LDP Leadership Race

OW2909130691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1229 GMT
29 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 29 KYODO—At least three men became certain Sunday to challenge Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's leadership in the October 27 election for the presidency of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which carries with it the post of prime minister.

Two of the three, Hiroshi Mitsuzuka and Michio Watanabe, on Sunday repeated their resolve to run in the race, joining the third man, Kiichi Miyazawa, who has already vowed to seek the party presidency.

Kaifu, whose two-year term of office as LDP president expires October 30, has yet to announce his candidacy, but leaders of the party's most powerful faction have repeatedly hinted they will support his reelection bid.

Former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa, a senior member of the No. 1 faction founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, said Sunday that Kaifu has enjoyed a high level of public popularity.

Mitsuzuka, a former foreign minister and a one-time party policy chief, spoke at a faction meeting at a hot springs resort in Hakone, Kanagawa Prefecture, saying he is "determined to do his best in order to overcome the present difficulties" surrounding the country.

Mitsuzuka, who succeeded the late Shintaro Abe as head of the party's No. 2 faction three months ago, told reporters after the speech that he will declare his candidacy October 5.

In his speech at the faction meeting, Mitsuzuka outlined his foreign and domestic policies, and said his basic goal is to build Japan as a peaceful nation which will actively contribute to the establishment of a new world order based on fairness and justice.

However, 10 out of the faction's 88 Diet members were absent from the session, indicating they oppose Mitsuzuka's leadership over the faction.

Three of the 10 intentionally boycotted the session. They were Mutsuki Kato, the incumbent chairman of the LDP policy affairs research council, Home Affairs Minister Akira Fukuda, and novelist-turned politician Shintaro Ishihara, faction sources said.

Watanabe, leader of the No. 4 faction comprising 67 Diet members, attended a lecture in Isehara, also Kanagawa Prefecture, on Sunday, and said he is willing to be judged by LDP Diet members and rank-and-file members in the party election.

Watanabe, a former finance minister, told reporters later that Kaifu's high popularity is based on the LDP's strength in popularity, indicating there is opposition to another term for Kaifu.

"I won't withdraw from the race, even if Mr. Kaifu is running," he said.

Ozawa, in an interview with TV ASAHI, urged party presidential hopefuls to make clear how they would lead the country. "Unless they do so, they are disqualified to criticize Kaifu," he said.

Ozawa, however, said the 106-member No. 1 faction has yet decided [as received] to support Kaifu in the election but that his faction will not put up its own candidate.

LDP Decides on Plans for Presidential Election

OW2809041591 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] The Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] formally decided at its General Council meeting today on the details of the party presidential election scheduled for the next month. The election will be formally announced on 19 October and voting will take place on 27 October.

According to the schedule, the LDP presidential election will be acknowledged and applications will be accepted on 19 October. If there should be more than two candidates, voting will be held by LDP Diet members, as well as the party's full and affiliated members on 27 October.

If a candidate obtains more than half of the total ballots cast by Diet members and by prefectural headquarters—the number of which will be decided in proportion to the party membership in prefectures—then he will win the election. If no candidate should get more than half the votes, the LDP Diet members will immediately vote on the top two candidates. A new LDP president will be elected by 1900 on 27 October. The outcome of the election will be reported at an extraordinary party convention scheduled for 29 October.

Election campaigns will start after the formal announcement. The General Council meeting approved that a joint news conference of the candidates will be held on 19 October, the day of the announcement; campaign speeches will be given at the LDP headquarters on 21 October; and campaign speeches may be made in the streets.

LDP Candidate Wins in Fukuoka By-Election

OW2909132991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1300 GMT
29 Sep 91

[Text] Fukuoka, Sept. 29 KYODO—Ruling Liberal Democratic Party candidate Kichinosuke Shigetomi on Sunday handily beat Social Democratic Party candidate Reiko Makino and a Japanese Communist Party candidate in a House of Councillors by-election in Fukuoka in southern Japan.

Shigetomi, former deputy director general of the Management and Coordination Agency, won 160,061 votes, against 107,392 votes garnered by runner-up Makino, with 28 percent of the vote counted.

Hampered partly by the collapse of the Soviet Communist Party, Japanese Communist Party candidate Isao Honjo was third with 32,117 votes Sunday evening.

In the first Diet election since the start of public outcry over a stock-market scandal, the three candidates barnstormed across the populous urban constituency for a seat vacated by LDP lawmaker Kazuki Motomura, who died August 17.

Shigetomi campaigned with promises of bringing pork barrel projects to the electorate, underlining his personal connections with LDP leaders in Tokyo's powerful political circles.

Makino tried to win the election on the strength of votes cast to protest a string of financial scandals which have drawn fire from opposition legislators who say the scandals reflect collusion between the ruling party and the business community.

The LDP victory gives the party 115 upper house seats, while the Social Democratic Party remained unchanged at 73 seats.

Komeito has 20, followed by the Japanese Communist Party with 14, Rengo Sangiin with 12, the Democratic Socialist Party with 10 and the Sangiin Club with four seats. There are four independents in the 252-seat second chamber.

More Punitive Action Against Nomura Securities

OW3009055291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0535 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sep 30 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told the Diet on Monday his ministry will take an additional punitive action against Nomura Securities Co. because of its excessive trading in stock of Tokyu Corp.

Hashimoto told a House of Councillors investigative panel that Nomura's involvement in the Tokyu stock transactions violated a Finance Ministry directive stipulated in the securities and exchange law.

Hashimoto disclosed the ministry's decision in announcing an interim report on a special investigation on stock transactions by the "Big Four" securities companies, led by Nomura, at the upper house's Special Committee on Securities and Financial Problems.

He said Nomura touted the Tokyu stock to investors at its head office and branches around October 1989, when the Tokyu price soared.

Hashimoto, however, said it would be difficult to categorize Nomura's move as manipulation banned under the law because the company's sales campaign was not directed at particular investors.

Nomura and the other big four securities companies were earlier ordered by the ministry to restrain their

business for three days as a punishment for their compensation of favored clients for investment losses.

Protesters Oppose Transport of Natural Uranium

OW2709140491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1343 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Rokkasho, Aomori Pref., Sept. 27 KYODO—A group of 300 antinuclear protestors rallied near Japan's first commercial uranium enrichment plant in northeast Japan on Friday, opposing the transport of 15 trailer truckloads, or 120 tons, of natural uranium hexafluoride from Tokyo.

Police arrested two protesters who staged a sit-in protest near the nuclear fuel-cycle complex in Rokkasho, Aomori Prefecture. Groups opposed to the plant have claimed it is a serious oversight that authorities would not announce the exact date of transportation and details of the transport route.

The trucks carrying consignments of the uranium hexafluoride went via a major highway, the Tohoku Expressway, from Tokyo to the plant in northern Honshu Island.

An antinuclear group said the International Atomic Energy Agency warned that in the event of an accident involving a leak from containers storing the uranium hexafluoride, the chemical could react with air moisture to produce deadly hydrogen fluoride gas.

The nuclear fuel-cycle plant, which was constructed by the Japan Nuclear Fuel Industries Corp., is scheduled to start operating early next year.

Test operations will begin in early October, using uranium hexafluoride, a raw material used in enriching uranium, company officials said.

The officials said the 120 tons of uranium hexafluoride owned by Tokyo Electric Co. amounts to 22 tons of enriched uranium, which is capable of operating a 1 million kilowatt-level nuclear power reactor for eight or nine months.

Uranium hexafluoride is a pale yellow crystalline compound used during gaseous diffusion for the separation of uranium 235 from ordinary uranium.

Japan now relies entirely on foreign imports of enriched uranium, but in future the enrichment plant is expected to supply 25 percent of the country's uranium needs.

Ministry To Boost Shipbuilding Productivity

OW2609143391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1003 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 26 KYODO—Transport Minister Kanezo Muraoka has asked an advisory panel to map out a new program for the shipbuilding industry to prepare for a business slump expected in the 21st century, officials said Thursday.

In response to the request, the officials said, the Council for Rationalization of Shipping and Shipbuilding Industries is scheduled to come up with a set of recommendations in December.

They said the new program will emphasize the boosting of productivity and promotion of automation in order to avoid personnel reductions in the future.

The council will study the increased use of robots in the welding and painting process to help the industry become more technology-oriented in the next century, the officials said.

The program will declare an end to the protracted recession that has plagued the industry since the late 1970s, but will warn that another slump will return after the year 2000 due to an expected decline in demand for construction of new bottoms, they said.

Japan's shipbuilding industry has regained a 50 percent market share in the world amid a shipbuilding boom triggered by growing demand for new ships to replace old ones completed in the 1970s.

The officials said the council will also focus its study on the development of oil leak prevention technology for tankers and building an industry for scrapping obsolete ships.

The nation's shipbuilding industry has been undergoing reorganization, including reduction of excess facilities, to overcome the prolonged recession.

As a result, the industry's shipbuilding capacity is about half that of 1974, when construction of new ships peaked in Japan. Its work force also shrank to nearly one-third of the 1974 level.

The industry, however, must now tackle the problems arising from growing demand for reconstruction of large-capacity tankers launched in the 1970s.

Industrial Output, Shipments Decline in Aug

OW2709060191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0531 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 27 KYODO—Japan's industrial production in August declined a seasonally adjusted 2.1 percent from the previous month, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Friday.

Shipments in the latest reporting month also dropped 1.1 percent from July, while inventories rose 1.0 percent.

North Korea

Foreign Ministry Welcomes U.S. Nuclear Proposal

SK2809093791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0900 GMT 28 Sep 91

[DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman statement—read by announcer]

[Text] According to news reports from Washington, U.S. President Bush announced on 27 September that the United States will unilaterally eliminate short-range nuclear weapons from U.S. ground and naval bases.

We welcome the U.S. announcement on unilateral withdrawal of nuclear weapons and hope that practical measures will be taken toward this end at an early date.

It is the human race's unanimous desire and aspiration to remove the danger of nuclear war and guarantee durable peace on the face of the earth.

The Korean people who are directly under the nuclear threat find the issue of removing the nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula the most urgent matter. South Korea is now filled with U.S. nuclear weapons, and our people are constantly under the nuclear threat.

Given President Bush's speech, we hope for a measure to be taken to withdraw the U.S. nuclear weapons, as a matter of course.

If the United States really withdraws its nuclear weapons from South Korea, a road will also be opened for signing the nuclear safeguards accord.

Our Republic's government has long put forward a proposal for turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and has constantly been making efforts to realize it. What counts most in realizing the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is to have U.S. nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea.

If and when the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is realized, it will contribute to peace in Asia and the world at large.

28 September 1991

Pyongyang

Kim Yong-sun Welcomes President Bush's Proposal

SK2909093791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0900 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea who is chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity With the World People and chairman of the Korean Anti-Nuke Peace Committee, made a report at a joint meeting of participants in the

international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification which was held here today with a large attendance.

Noting that although the atmosphere of confrontation has been eased in the international arena in general, the dark clouds of nuclear war are still hovering over the Korean peninsula and this is gravely threatening peace in Korea with every passing day and casting dark shadows over peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world, he said this situation has been created entirely because the United States has deployed more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons in South Korea and is resorting to its policy of nuclear blackmail against the peoples of the DPRK and other Asian countries.

Notably, the United States is rendering the situation in our country all the more strained, raising a hue and cry over the fictitious "development of nuclear weapons" by us, he said, and continued:

The U.S. claim for a "nuclear inspection" of us is aimed at misleading the ever louder voices of justice of our people and the world's peaceloving people demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea and at justifying its policy of nuclear blackmail on the Korean peninsula.

As long as the nuclear threat to our country exists the question of our signing the nuclear safeguards accord cannot be solved smoothly.

The United States should hold talks with us over the questions of withdrawing its nuclear weapons from South Korea and of guaranteeing the non-use of nuclear weapons against our country so that we may sign the nuclear safeguards accord, instead of only forcing a unilateral inspection of our country.

We welcome the announcement of the U.S. chief executive on September 27 that they would withdraw short-range nuclear weapons in its ground and naval bases and so on, and hope practical steps will be taken to this end at an early date.

In view of this speech of the U.S. chief executive we expect that a step should be taken promptly to withdraw the U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea, too.

In order to remove the danger of nuclear war from the Korean peninsula, it is imperative to get the U.S. nuclear weapons, its very source, withdrawn from South Korea and turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

If the United States and the South Korean authorities respond to our denuclearization proposal, the "nuclear inspection" problem raised by them will be solved naturally.

Referring to the country's reunification, he said:

Of prime importance in achieving national reunification is to ensure peace on the Korean peninsula and create peaceful preconditions for national reunification and, to

this end, to remove the political and military confrontation between the North and the South.

We consider it necessary to solve the humanitarian questions of travels and exchange, but the solution of more urgent peace and military problems cannot be delayed.

We hold that the South Korean authorities must not avoid adopting a nonaggression declaration any longer but stop the aggressive "Team Spirit" joint military exercises that aggravate the military confrontation.

The United States should sign a peace agreement with us and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea at an early date since there is neither reason nor pretext for it to keep them in South Korea.

The proposal for reunification through a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments is the great principle of defining the most reasonable way of solving the question of national reunification independently and peacefully.

Although the North and the South separately entered the United Nations, there is no change in our stand that Korea is one and it must be reunified into one, and we will make all efforts to reunify the country in the U.N. arena, too.

Noting that the South Korean authorities have suppressed the patriotic struggle of students and other people for independence, democracy and reunification at the point of the bayonet, arrested visitors to the North including the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and woman student Yim Su-kyong who had visited Pyongyang for the sake of reunification, and those related to the pan-national alliance for the country's reunification and a large number of pro-reunification patriotic figures by invoking the notorious "National Security Law," and are harshly penalizing them, Secretary Kim Yong-sun stressed that the South Korean authorities must not pursue the line of confrontation, war and division persistently but join in the historical trend toward independence, peace and reunification.

He expressed the belief that all the progressive people of the world will as ever render invariable support and encouragement to the Korean people's cause of justice for peace and reunification of the country.

Premier Arrives in New York; Issues Statement

*SK2809155791 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, and a DPRK delegation headed by Comrade Kim Yong-nam, vice premier of the State Administration Council and foreign minister, arrived in New York on 27 September to take part in the 46th session of the UN General Assembly.

On behalf of the UN secretary general and the director of administration office for the UN secretary general, our country's permanent representative to the United Nations Pak Kil-yon and functionaries of the mission welcomed the premier of the State Administration Council and our country's delegation at the airport.

Our country's delegation gave a public arrival statement.

After noting the fact that the UN General Assembly currently in session has accepted our country as a member by unanimous vote, the statement continues: Our Republic's entry into the United Nations is an event of significance in doing away with the unfavorable relations that have continued between our country and the United Nations and in forging new ones. We hope that the United Nations will contribute, as a matter of course, to a fair settlement of the issue of reunifying Korea, in a way corresponding to the conditions in which North and South Korea have each been admitted into the United Nations.

We will, as a UN member, pool our efforts for maintaining peace and stability in the world and for realizing the common cause of the human race for socioeconomic progress and wellbeing.

The human race is now living in an era of independence. It is the unstoppable trend of the times that all the countries and people are on the move toward sovereignty, independence, and peace after freeing themselves from domination and subjugation. The changing and developing situation requires that the UN functions and role be uplifted, indispensably, even further in commensuration with this trend.

The DPRK, an independent, peace-loving state, will be faithful to the goals and principles of the United Nations and sincerely fulfill its duty as a member state.

Outside the airport, a large number of compatriots residing in the United States warmly welcomed the premier of the State Administration Council and our country's delegation.

The premier of the State Administration Council and our country's delegation stopped briefly in Beijing and Tokyo on their way to New York.

The premier of the State Administration Council and his entourage conversed with Han Tok-su, chairman of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon] Central Standing Committee, and other Chongnyon cadres, and Hajime Ishii, member of the Japanese Diet and president of the Parliamentary Union for Promoting Japanese-Korean Friendship, at a VIP lounge at Narita Airport, Tokyo.

Kim Il-song Greet PRC Leaders on Anniversary

*SK3009105891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1036 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a message of greetings to Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Yang Shangkun, president of the People's Republic of China (PRC), and Wan Li, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC, on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the PRC.

President Kim Il-song says:

The founding of the People's Republic of China was a fundamental turn in the history of the Chinese people for several thousands of years.

The Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of China won victory in the people's revolution through a long-drawn-out arduous struggle and, since then, a prosperous and developing new socialist China has made its appearance in the vast land of China.

This clearly showed that socialism is the only way of true human emancipation and social progress.

Today the Chinese people are registering ceaselessly fine successes in their struggle to build socialism with Chinese characteristics, adhering to the four cardinal principles and deepening reform and opening to the outside world, closely united around the Communist Party of China with Comrade Jiang Zemin at the core.

The Korean people are sincerely rejoiced over the fact that the Chinese people are dynamically advancing along the road chosen by themselves, full of confidence, even under the international circumstances of ever more malicious anti-socialist moves, and the international position of the People's Republic of China is being consolidated with every passing day thanks to its independent, sovereign and peaceloving foreign policy.

We express firm solidarity for the just policy and efforts of the Chinese party and government to reunify the whole country on the principle of "one country, two systems".

The Korea-China friendship is an indestructible friendship which was established with blood and has been consolidated through all trials in the course of the struggle to attain the common aim and ideal.

However complicated the present international situation may be, the traditional Korea-China friendship will grow stronger and the peoples of our two countries will always advance shoulder to shoulder for the victory of the cause of peace and socialism.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I sincerely wish you and the Chinese people greater success in the efforts to build a prosperous, democratic, civilized and modern socialist country.

PRC Envoy Hails Planned Kim Il-song Visit

*SK2909083091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0802 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—The Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Central Committee of the Korea-China Friendship Association gave a reception at the People's Palace of Culture Saturday on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, made a speech.

He stressed that the victory of the people's revolution in China and the founding of the PRC 42 years ago were great achievements gained by the Chinese people through their long-drawn-out arduous yet glorious struggle.

He said that the courageous and industrious Chinese people, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China with Comrade Jiang Zemin at the core, have registered big successes in their endeavours to achieve the stability and unity of the whole country, oppose the imperialists' "peaceful transition" strategy and "bourgeois liberalism" and build socialism with Chinese characteristics, while adhering to the four cardinal principles.

Our people are pleased more than anyone else over the successful socialist construction in China, he said, adding:

We express full support and firm solidarity with the Chinese party, government and people in their endeavours to realize the reunification of the country according to the policy of "one country, two systems".

He stressed that the annals of Korea-China friendship established and cultivated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song together with the great leader of the Chinese people Comrade Mao Zedong and respected Comrade Zhou Enlai are being further enriched today through repeated visits and meetings between the party and state leaders of the two countries.

The upcoming visit to the PRC by the great leader comrade Kim Il-song will mark an epochal event in developing the traditional Korea-China friendship to a new height, he noted.

Speaking next, Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi said that though the international situation is changing fast at present, the Korean people, under the leadership of Comrade President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea, are steadfastly advancing along the road of socialism chosen by themselves in singlehearted unity.

The Chinese people always watch the development of the situation on the Korean peninsula and the Korean people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, he said, adding:

The entry of the DPRK into the United Nations will make a greater contribution to developing cooperative relations between the Korean people and the peoples of many countries of the world and safeguarding peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

Noting that the Chinese party and Government will resolutely support the proposal put forward by Comrade President Kim Il-song to realise Korea's reunification through confederation on the basis of one nation, one state, two systems and two governments, he expressed the belief that the Korean people will surely win a final victory in removing the interference of outside forces and achieving national reunification.

China and Korea are friendly neighbours linked by mountains and waters and in lips-and-teeth relations and the peoples of the two countries are real brothers and sisters, he noted, stressing:

The common destiny and ideal have closely united the peoples of China and Korea into one.

The frequent visits and meetings between the leaders of the two parties and two countries in recent years have continually developed friendship and solidarity between us to a new stage. Comrade President Kim Il-song will shortly pay a visit to China. This is another important event in the history of Sino-Korean friendly relations.

Noting that his upcoming visit to China under the present-day international situation is of weighty significance in further strengthening the Sino-Korean friendship, adhering to the cause of socialism and safeguarding peace and stability in northeast Asia and the rest of Asia, Zheng Yi wished President Kim Il-song full success in his visit.

The Chinese party, Government and people set great store by the Sino-Korean friendship and will make every possible effort to consolidate and develop it, he said.

International Solidarity March Held in Pyongyang

Foreign Delegations Arrive

*SK2809065791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0423 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Excerpts] Pyongyang September 28 (KCNA)—Delegations and delegates of various countries and international organizations which had vigorously conducted the international solidarity march for supporting the Korean people's cause of independent and peaceful national reunification from February arrived here yesterday to participate in functions of the march to be held in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Thousands of working people in the city warmly welcomed the foreign guests at the airport, shouting "National reunification", "Friendship and solidarity" and other slogans, waving bunches of flowers.

The guests were met by Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] who is chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity With the World People and chairman of the Korean Anti-Nuke Peace Committee; Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and chairman of the Korean National Peace Committee; Choe Mun-son, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee; and officials concerned. [passage omitted]

Tens of thousands of working people and students in the city warmly welcomed the foreign guests who came to our country, supporting the Korean people's cause of reunification on a unprecedented scale throughout the world and expressed feelings of thanks to their righteous solidarity movement, waving bunches of flowers along the route extending scores of ri from the airport to the Pyongyang Koryo Hotel.

Marchers Issue Statements

*SK2809085391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0508 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 28 (KCNA)—Delegates of international and regional organizations who arrived in Pyongyang Friday to participate in the functions of the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification made public statements.

Guy DuPre, secretary general of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (CILRECO), said in his statement:

The current march initiated at an extraordinary meeting of members of leading organs of the international liaison committee held in Paris, France, in February, by our liaison committee, an international organization whose mission it is to coordinate the international solidarity movement supporting the cause of the peaceful reunification of Korea, has progressed vigorously in different countries of the world, recording a great success.

The current march held in more than 100 countries of the five continents was characteristic in diverse forms and ways including signature campaigns, flag processions, demonstrations, mass rallies, joint meetings of political parties and public organizations, motor procession, sports and cultural functions, group protest at U.S. embassies and South Korean "embassies" in keeping with specific realities and conditions of each country. Ringing in this course were loud voices of the world's people demanding a halt to the tragic division of the Korean nation lasting nearly half a century, forced by outside forces.

Through the march which fully demonstrated the international solidarity for the Korean people's cause, people of the world have become more deeply conscious that the prolongation of the division on the Korean peninsula is constantly accompanied by the danger of a nuclear war and such danger of the nuclear war endangering entire mankind is attributable to the U.S. scheme to perpetuate the division of Korea according to its Asia-Pacific domination strategy.

During the period of the march, the world people strongly demanded that the United States withdraw its troops and all the means of war including nuclear weapons from South Korea and put an end to its interference into the internal affairs of the Korean people, expressed firm solidarity with the South Korean people in the heroic struggle for independence, democracy and reunification and strongly called for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

In turning out in the march, the world people expressed firm solidarity with the Korean people who eagerly want reunification and peace of the country and in this course vividly showed their aspiration to live in a new world of peace and justice free from nuclear weapons.

We, delegates of the march held in different places of the world, are full of the determination to loudly cry and show to the world public that Korea is one and she must be reunified independently on a peaceful way at an early date by holding here in Korea functions of the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification and launching an international march on the cursed Military Demarcation Line symbolic of the tragedy of the national split of the Korean people.

Gilberto Zapata Isaza, secretary general of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification, in a statement outlined achievements gained by people of the Latin American and Caribbean region in the march and sternly denounced the outrageous moves of the United States which is threatening the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, wielding nuclear weapons in a bid to stretch the crooked hand of neo-colonialism to the northern half of Korea according to its Asia-Pacific domination strategy.

He stressed that the Latin American people will not allow the U.S. imperialists to lay hands on Korea and Cuba and clearly show with their practical action what is the international solidarity of the people.

Anders Kristensen, secretary general of the Nordic Cooperation Committee for Friendship and Solidarity With the Korean People, in his statement hoped that the United States would be aware of the injustice of its policy obstructing Korea's reunification while threatening the Korean people with nuclear weapons, replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea in the interests of the American people and in

conformity with the demand of the world people for independence, justice and peace.

He urged the South Korean authorities to stop suppression of the South Korean people calling for reunification, approach the North-South dialogue with sincerity and respond to the signing of a North-South nonaggression declaration.

Madirisha Juvenal, secretary general of the African Regional Committee for Friendship and Solidarity With the Korean People, in the statement said that the international community will not remain an on-looker to outrageous moves of the U.S. imperialists who try to force their intention upon the Korean people while threatening even to start a horrible nuclear war which would lead mankind to destruction. This time, the international community will check and frustrate the "two Koreas" plot of the United States and the South Korean authorities and thus lift louder voices to discharge its duty.

George Pattas, president of the Western Europe Committee for Korea's Reunification and Peace, said:

We have come here to reaffirm the support of the Western European people to the Korean people's cause of reunification and peace. Together with our friends in Asia, Africa and Latin America, we will not only inspire the Korean people in the struggle for the cause of justice but also tell our just demand to the South Korean authorities who are continuously obstructing Korea's reunification and peace.

He urged the South Korean authorities to get U.S. troops and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea, stop the suppression of the South Korean democratic figures and respond to dialogue without delay to accelerate the process of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea at fast pace.

Kim Yong-sun Meets Marchers

*SK2809234891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1522 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 28 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, today met and conversed in a friendly atmosphere with foreign delegates who came to participate in functions for the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification. The foreign guests are Marshal Francisco da Costa Gomes, president of Portugal [title as received], former Greek General George Pattas, chairman of the West European Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea, and Roger Dafflon, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Switzerland, who are honorary chairmen of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (CILRECO), and Guy Dupre, secretary general of the CILRECO.

The guests stressed that the members of the CILRECO would actively support Korea's cause of peace and reunification.

Saying the nuclear weapons in South Korea poses a danger not only to Korean but also to Chinese, Japanese and Soviet peoples, they contended that the North and the South of Korea should under a nuclear inspection simultaneously.

Noting that although the United States and its followers talk about the ruin of socialism, socialism will never go to ruin, they said Korea is successfully building socialism with a correct ideology suited to their realities.

They expressed highest respect for the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who are devoting their all to the building of socialism and the reunification and peace of the county.

Secretary Kim Yong-sun also today met and had a friendly talk separately with Joseph Debono Grech, deputy leader of the Malta Labour Party, and an ASAHI newspaper coverage group of Japan.

Vice President Attends Rally

*SK2909095691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0919 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—A joint gathering of the participants in the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification is going on at the open-air theatre in Youth Park at the foot of Moran Hill in Pyongyang.

Participating in the gathering are honorary chairmen of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (CILRECO), general secretaries and chairmen of parties, delegates of political parties and governments, delegates of public organizations and friendship and solidarity organizations from the five continents of the world and delegates of international and regional organizations.

Yi Chong ok, vice-president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and officials concerned were present there.

Guy DuPre, secretary general of the CILRECO, made a report.

Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea who is chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity With the World People and chairman of the Korean Anti-Nuke Peace Committee, also made a report.

Letter to President Bush Adopted

*SK2909114891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0945 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—The joint meeting of the participants in the international solidarity

march for supporting Korea's reunification held in Pyongyang today adopted a letter demanding that the U.S. chief executive respond to the proposal for converting the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

The letter addressed to the U.S. chief executive says:

The present situation on the Korean peninsula shows that any unexpected accident may spark off another war there any moment.

It is as clear as daylight that if a war breaks out on the Korean peninsula, the United States itself will suffer colossal material and human damages and irretrievable moral wounds and peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world will be in great jeopardy.

We believe that it is high time the United States gave a deep consideration to the Korean issue and rectified its Korea policy which had been formulated in the era of cold war.

We consider, therefore, that the United States should respond to the call for replacement of the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, withdrawal of its troops and nuclear arms from South Korea and conversion of the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

And we strongly demand that the United States should stop encouraging the South Korean authorities to North-South confrontation and permanent division and discontinue supporting their suppression and violation of human rights against patriotic and democratic forces who call for reunification.

It is natural that the United States should take hands off Korea so that the Koreans may solve the Korean question by themselves.

We are looking forward to hearing from you soon that you have decided to revise the policy of occupation and rule over Korea which had been authored by your predecessors, thus meeting the demand of a new era.

Letter to UN President Adopted

*SK2909120491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0956 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—The joint meeting of the participants in the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification held here today adopted a letter to the president of the 46th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Noting that the United Nations should pay attention to the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, the letter says:

It is truly unusual that the status quo of ceasefire has been protracted on the Korean peninsula for over 38 years since the Korean war in which the name of the U.N. was abused and this mars the dignity of the United Nations.

We insist that the United Nations should not allow the United States to assume the name of the U.N. any longer in Korea and take concrete measures to replace the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and withdraw the U.S. troops and their nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Today, the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea constitute a source of jeopardizing peace and security of Asia and the rest of the world.

The only way to completely remove the danger of a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula is to make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone.

Paying heed to the fact that the United Nations has precedentedly made a positive contribution to denuclearizing some other countries, we hope that on the Korean peninsula, too, the United Nations will make an equal contribution to her denuclearization.

Considering that a unilateral nuclear inspection of the DPRK forced by the United States is a brigandish high-handed act of the nuclear power, we hold that the United Nations should respect the stand of the DPRK demanding simultaneous nuclear inspection.

We hope that you will exercise your competence during your term of office as the president of the 46th session of the U.N. General Assembly to take positive measures to remove the nuclear threat and preserve peace on the Korean peninsula.

Letter to South Leaders Adopted

*SK2909115391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0950 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—The joint meeting of the participants in the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification held in Pyongyang today adopted a letter to the South Korean authorities, urging that they give up their stand of confrontation and division and follow the trend of the time towards peace and reunification.

Denouncing the South Korean authorities for obstinately following the treacherous way in conspiracy with the foreign forces and countering the aspirations and desire of the Korean nation, the letter continues:

We consider that denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is the only way for removing the rootcause of nuclear war danger from the Korean peninsula and that to carry into practice the proposal for reunification through confederacy is the only realistic way for independent and peaceful Korean reunification.

Considering that the more than 40,000 U.S. troops and more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons in South Korea are main stumbling blocks lying in the way of Korea's reunification, we hold that the South Korean authorities should urge the U.S. administration to withdraw them from South Korea, discontinue the "Team

Spirit" joint military exercises and respond to the peace proposal of the DPRK to adopt a North-South nonaggression declaration and turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

We strongly urge you, the South Korean authorities, to remove the concrete wall and all the material and legal obstacles lying in the way of Korea's reunification including all anti-democratic fascist laws as early as possible

We strongly demand that you, the South Korean authorities, stop your plot for the perpetuation of national division supported by outside forces, lend an ear to the daily growing reunification desire of the Korean people and the desire of the world's peaceloving people and take a correct stand and attitude for a peaceful reunification of the country and for peace in the Korean peninsula and Asia.

We hope that you will make a positive response to our principled and peaceloving call and take appropriate measures.

Appeal to Governments Adopted

*SK2909121391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1002 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—The joint meeting of the participants in the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification held in Pyongyang today adopted an appeal to all governments, parliaments, political parties and peace and solidarity organizations, and international organizations.

Noting that tension is relaxed and regional disputes are settled in other regions of the world but it is only on the Korean peninsula that tension and confrontation still goes on while the danger of war is constantly hanging over, the appeal goes on:

Recently the United States mapped out "120 day war scenario" and initialled the Wartime Host Nation Support Agreement with the South Korean ruling group which can be seen only on the eve of war.

Furthermore, the United States disregards the preconditions for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and tries to force the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a non-nuclear member state of the Treaty, to sign the nuclear safeguards accord blackmailing her with nuclear weapons.

Should a nuclear state be allowed to threaten and attack a non-nuclear state with the nuclear weapons at random, it is only too clear that no country would join such an unjust treaty.

Instigated by the U.S., the South Korean authorities arrest at random youth and students and other patriotic

people in South Korea who are struggling for independence, democracy and national reunification. They are trying to curb the growing desire of the nation for concord and reunification.

Peace can not be maintained if such a situation lasts on the Korean peninsula. If another war breaks out on the Korean peninsula, it will bring grave consequences upon peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

In order to ensure peace on the Korean peninsula, first of all, non-aggression declaration should be adopted between the North and the South of Korea and a peace agreement be concluded between the DPRK and the U.S. so as to improve the relations between North and South and between the DPRK and the U.S., that are now in a state of confrontation.

The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is an international issue of primary importance in eliminating the most dangerous hotbed of a nuclear war.

Let all the peace-loving governments, parliaments, political parties, and social organizations in various countries and international organizations that love peace render active support to the peace initiatives put forth on many occasions by the government of the DPRK including the proposal for adopting a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South, concluding a peace agreement between the DPRK and the U.S. and the proposal of making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone!

Let us all force the U.S. and South Korean authorities to respond to them!

It is a prerequisite not only for Korea's reunification but for peace on the Korean peninsula to achieve the unity of the entire Korean nation in North, South and abroad.

Let all governments, parliaments, political parties and social organizations and international organizations assist in reconciliation and unity of the Korean people instead of doing harm to their great national unity and put strong pressure on the South Korean authorities to abolish the "National Security Law" which labels the fellow countrymen as enemy and the reunification movement as illegal, stop the suppression against the democratic figures calling for reunification and release those arrested and detained at once!

We, the participants in this joint rally, earnestly appeal to all the governments, parliaments, political parties, social organizations of various countries and international organizations to keep step with each other and continue to render strong support to and firm solidarity with the Korean people in their righteous struggle for peace and independent and peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Marchers Begin Activities

*SK2909092691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0851 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 29 (KCNA)—Friends from the five continents of the world, fully supporting the Korean people's cause of national reunification, held a march here today.

The march was held as part of the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification.

The extraordinary meeting of members of the leading body of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (CILRECO) which was held in Paris in February called upon the governments, political parties and public organizations of all countries in the world and international organizations to conduct the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification in various forms and methods.

Since then a large number of political parties and public organizations of some 100 countries on the five continents and international and regional organizations, hundreds of millions of peaceloving people, have participated in the march.

Representatives of them participated in the march today. Among them are honorary chairmen and members of the CILRECO, party general secretaries and chairmen, delegates of political parties and governments, parliamentarians, delegates of public organizations and friendship and solidarity organizations from the five continents and delegates of international and regional organizations, a Japanese motorcycle procession squad and a Nakhodka motorcade squad of the Soviet Union.

They marched along the streets of the capital, extending firm solidarity to the Korean people in their sacred struggle to achieve an early reunification of the country divided by outside forces.

Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea who is chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity With the World People and chairman of the Korean Anti-Nuke Peace Committee, and officials concerned participated in the march.

Fluttering among the marchers were flags of the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification, the DPRK, the march of CILRECO, the Asian, Pacific, West European, Nordic, African, Latin American and Caribbean regional march squads and national march squads.

A large number of working people, school youth and children in Pyongyang turned out along streets to warmly welcome the marchers.

Loud shouts "Korean reunification," "National reunification" and "Korea is one!" burst forth incessantly from among the marchers and welcomers.

The marchers stopped once to hold a joint gathering at the open-air theatre in Youth Park at the foot of beautiful Moran Hill which is situated in the heart of the capital.

The friends from the five continents lifted up voices of solidarity for the Korean people's cause of justice, marching by cars and on foot a hundred ri (nearly 40 kilometres).

Marchers Meet Kim Il-song

*SK3009114191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1116 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Excerpts] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received participants in the international solidarity march for Korea's reunification.

Present there were general secretaries and chairmen of parties, party and government delegates, parliamentarians, delegates of public, friendship and solidarity organisations of different countries and delegates of international and regional organisations. [passage omitted]

Present there were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president; Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the C.C., the WPK, chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity with World People and chairman of the Korean Anti-Nuke Peace Committee; Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and chairman of the Korean National Peace Committee; Choe Mun-son, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee; Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the C.C., the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea; and Yo Yon-ku, member of the presidium of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and vice-chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly.

The participants presented President Kim Il-song with a basket of flowers, wishing him good health and long life and a gift in the name of the members of the leading body of CILRECO [International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea].

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks to the participants in the international solidarity march for Korea's reunification for rendering active support to the cause of Korea's reunification and had a warm and friendly conversation with them.

Kim Il-song Attends Banquet

*SK3009113191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1055 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today arranged a banquet

for the participants in the international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall.

President Kim Il-song entered the banquet hall amid warm welcome of the participants.

Present on invitation were delegates of political parties and organisations of different countries and delegates of international and regional organisations that had participated in the international solidarity march.

Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president; Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the C.C., the WPK, chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity with the World People and chairman of the Korean Anti-nuke Peace Committee; Chong Chon-ki, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and chairman of the Korean National Peace Committee; Choe Mun-son, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee; Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the C.C., the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea; Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly and Presidium member of the C.C., the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland; and officials concerned were present at the banquet.

Kim Yong-sun spoke at the banquet.

Francisco da Costa Gomes, honorary president of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (CILRECO) spoke next.

The banquet proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

In his speech, Kim Yong-sun said:

Preserving peace on the Korean peninsula and reunifying the country is not only the greatest national desire of the Korean people but also a pressing issue that must be settled immediately for peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government, conscious of their heavy responsibility for the destiny of the Korean nation and their noble mission for the cause of peace of mankind, are doing their utmost to ease the tension and safeguard peace on the Korean peninsula, put an end to the country's division by foreign forces and reunify the country independently and peacefully.

The great leader President Kim Il-song's proposal for reunification through a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments and proposal for denuclearising the Korean peninsula enjoy support from the progressive people of the world as well as the entire Korean people for their feasibility and reasonableness.

The international solidarity march and international signature campaign for supporting Korea's reunification held this time clearly showed that supporting the Korean people's cause of peace and reunification is an irresistible trend of the times.

Kim Yong-sun expressed thanks to the delegates and the governments, parliaments, political parties and public organisations of different countries and international organisations which assisted the solidarity march in every way.

In his speech, Francisco da Costa Gomes expressed most heartfelt thanks on behalf of the CILRECO and all the delegates to respected President Kim Il-song for taking off his precious time to grant an audience to them and arranging a grand banquet, though he was finding his days so full, guiding the party and state affairs.

He continued:

What delighted us most during our stay in Pyongyang was that we met again with respected his excellency President Kim Il-song who is leading the Korean people in good health and full of energy and we witnessed the entire Korean people promoting the building of Korean-style socialism centred on the masses with optimism and firm confidence, united in one mind around his excellency the great President Kim Il-song and respected his excellency Kim Chong-il.

This convinced us again that the Korean people will confidently follow the road of socialism chosen by themselves without any vacillation in whatever storm and will continue to emerge victorious in the future, because they are guided by his excellency the great President Kim Il-song and the outstanding leader his excellency Kim Chong-il.

The progressive people of conscience all over the world consider that the United States must take its hands off the Korean peninsula either in view of the trend of the development of the international situation or in view of the demand of the times and that the Korean people undergoing sufferings and misfortunes due to the division of the country should achieve the reunification of their country with their own efforts.

The United States has deployed its troops some 40,000 strong and more than 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea, a small land, and continuously pursues its policy of nuclear threat and blackmail against the Korean people. This is not only a blatant threat to the vital rights of the Korean people but also a grave challenge to world peace and security.

The U.S. moves to start a new war on the Korean peninsula today are meeting with strong protest and denunciation from the world people.

We have conducted an international solidarity march and an international signature campaign in support of the Korean people's struggle for peace and reunification

of the country. If this has been helpful, if only a little, to the accomplishment of the Korean people's just cause, we are very happy.

During the international solidarity march, voices rejecting the ever-growing U.S. nuclear war provocation moves on the Korean peninsula and demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea and the conversion of the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone rang out.

International support and solidarity have been expressed for the proposal for reunification through a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments put forward by respected his excellency President Kim Il-song.

We consider that it means helping toward peace and reunification of Korea to make all efforts to let the world public clearly know the situation on the Korean peninsula, all the peaceful policies of the DPRK and the sincere efforts of the Korean people for the peaceful reunification of the country.

We assure you that we will continue to wage as vigorously as ever the international solidarity movement for the Korean people's just cause of reunification.

PLO Sends Congratulations on UN Admission

*SK3009080791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0700 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—The Palestine Liberation Organisation warmly congratulated the admission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations.

The message sent by the political department of the PLO to the foreign ministry of the DPRK expressed the expectation that the government of the DPRK will take a firm and in-principle stand toward the Palestinian issue in the United Nations.

The message added that the PLO will in the future, too, so in the past support the noble aim of the DPRK to achieve the reunification of Korea through confederacy and take a single seat in the U.N.

Nuclear Inspection of U.S. Bases Demanded

*SK2809143591 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 25 Sep 91*

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "Shameless Act of Nuclear War Maniacs"]

[Text] Of late, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are more undisguisedly perpetrating maneuvers to enforce nuclear inspection on us.

On 23 September, the U.S. imperialists informed the puppet ambassador to the United States that unless North Korea acts as a responsible member state of the international community, including signing the nuclear

safety accords, they have no intention of improving relations with North Korea.

On the same day, in an interview with *NEWSWEEK*, a U.S. weekly, traitor No Tae-u, who went to New York to attend the UN General Assembly, raved that if the North fulfills the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty obligations, South Korea would hold negotiations with the North for relaxing military tension on the Korean peninsula.

Before this, on 19 September, South Korea, Japan, Germany, and Australia submitted a so-called resolution demanding a strengthening of the nuclear inspection system to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Such maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are designed to enforce nuclear inspection on us at any cost. These maneuvers are an atrocious challenge to our people and the people of the world who demand simultaneous inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and who oppose unilateral nuclear inspection on the Korean peninsula.

As is known to everyone, nuclear inspection is to be conducted to prevent a nuclear war and safeguard mankind from the nuclear danger. Therefore, nuclear inspection on the Korean peninsula should be conducted on South Korea, where more than 1,000 nuclear weapons are deployed, instead of the northern half of the Republic, where there are no nuclear weapons. This is just and reasonable in view of the mission and goals of the inspection, as well as of the prevailing realities.

The U.S. imperialists not only have deployed about 1,000 various nuclear weapons in South Korea but also have staged each year the Team Spirit war exercise, which is designed to be a preemptive nuclear attack on us. By conducting aerial nuclear strike exercises every day along with the puppets, they have strained our nation's situation to an extreme point.

This notwithstanding, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, without mentioning a single word about this, are only attempting to enforce nuclear inspection upon us. This is a shameless act similar to a thief calling "stop, thief!"

Furthermore, the United States, as a nation possessing nuclear weapons, has an obligation to abide by the provisions of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which stipulates that one should not threaten non-nuclear states with nuclear weapons, that one should not use the nuclear weapons, that one should not carry out any act jeopardizing the basic interests of non-nuclear states, that one should make every effort to prevent a nuclear war, and that one should take steps for safeguarding the people's safety.

The attempt to enforce nuclear inspection upon us, not observing the obligations the United States should abide by, is a violent infringement upon our sovereignty and absolutely should not be pardoned.

If one wants to conduct nuclear inspection, one should do it not only on us but also simultaneously inspect the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea.

In the September conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors held in Vienna, the capital of Austria, from 11 to 13 September, the issue of signing the nuclear safety agreement between us and the IAEA was not successfully resolved. This is totally due to the criminal maneuvers of some countries, including the United States and Japan.

We treasure sovereignty more than anything else. We are making consistent efforts to sincerely fulfill assigned obligations based on the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. However, the adoption of a so-called resolution by some countries, including the United States, to exert pressure on us for intervening in our domestic affairs is an act of pouring cold water on the signing of the nuclear safeguards accord. Under the condition in which only unilateral pressure is put on us, we will not respond to the demand of anyone even in the future.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are running amok with nuclear war maneuvers by having deployed enormous nuclear weapons in forward areas in South Korea. It is preposterous for them to talk about nuclear inspection. By noisily talking about the issue of nuclear inspection, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are scheming to conceal the practical existence of more than 1,000 U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and their dangerous nature. Thus, they are attempting to mislead the world's public opinion. However, this is a foolish fantasy.

It is a fact officially recognized by the entire world that the danger of nuclear war on the Korean peninsula is increasing due to the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets and that the U.S. troops and their nuclear weapons should be withdrawn from South Korea so that the danger of a nuclear war is removed and durable peace is realized.

If the U.S. imperialists have the idea, even slightly, to prevent nuclear war on the Korean peninsula, they should immediately withdraw the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea instead of talking about nuclear inspection, which they are scheming to enforce only on one side. By doing so, the Korean peninsula will be turned into a nuclear-free zone and favorable circumstances for achieving durable peace and national reunification will be created.

Kim Il-song Predicts Reunification During 1990s

OW3009083091 Tokyo KYODO in English
0817 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang, Sept. 30 KYODO—North Korean President Kim Il-song said Monday that reunification of the Korean peninsula will surely be realized during the 1990s, according to a Japanese visitor here who met with Kim.

The president made the remarks during a meeting with foreign delegates participating in the "international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification," a Japanese delegate said.

Kim also said North Korea is placing priority on food, clothing, and housing, in that order, according to Hiroshi Wakabayashi, a standing director of the Japan-Korea Cultural Exchange Association.

Last year's flood in North Korea caused more damage than one in 1967, but agricultural production has recovered more than expected because of the construction of a dam, Kim was quoted as saying.

Kim Il-song Addresses Meeting in Chagang Province

SK3009071791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0638 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—An enlarged plenary meeting of the Chagang Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held on September 24 under the guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

It was attended by the members and alternate members of the Chagang Provincial party committee and the members of the provincial party auditing commission.

Also participating in the meeting were officials of provincial party and power bodies and administration and economic organs, industrial establishments and agriculture.

Discussed at the meeting was the issue of further developing the national economy in Chagang Province.

Prior to the meeting, President Kim Il-song guided on the spot various units including a steel works, the northern railways, the Manpo cocoon farm, the Hyangha cooperative farm in Chagang County and the Chonchon industrial goods store and called consultative meetings of different domains to acquaint himself with the economic conditions of the province.

At the meeting, he delivered a concluding speech which would serve as a guideline in effecting a new great upswing in all sectors of the national economy in the province so as to successfully attain the remaining targets of the third seven-year plan and push ahead with the building of socialism as a whole.

He extended thanks to the provincial people, saying that Chagang Province has done a lot of things by energetically working to implement the party's line and policy.

He noted that with various modern industries built and a rapid progress made in all spheres of politics, economy and culture, the province, once called a solitary mountainous area, has turned into an industrial province greatly contributing to the strengthening of the economic potentials of the nation, and into a place good for people's habitation.

Pointing out that the historical desire of our people for enough food and clothing and fine life is being carried into effect also in the province in the age of the Workers' Party, he said that to realise this age-old desire at an early date means accomplishing the complete victory of socialism and defending and glorifying our socialism centred on the popular masses.

He advanced concrete tasks of the province in different sectors of the national economy, saying that the entire party members and working people in the province must push ahead with socialist economic construction, giving full play to the invincible might of their singlehearted unity around the party.

He gave instructions on developing the power industry.

He said that the existing power stations should be run at full capacity and, at the same time, the power stations under construction be completed as soon as possible.

He gave instructions on developing the chemical industry.

He said Chagang Province should increase the production of chemical fertilizers by building a new nitrogenous fertilizer plant and a phosphate fertilizer plant which use electricity.

He said that larger quantities of paper should be made by increasing the production capacities of the existing paper mills and building new ones.

He gave instructions on increasing the output of iron and steel.

He said the steel works should keep a high and steady rate of production and the competent industrial establishments should provide them with sufficient raw and other materials needed for the production of steel.

He advanced the task of the mining industry.

He said that in order to constantly increase the production of minerals at the March 5 youth mine and other mines in the province, it is imperative to thoroughly implement the party's policy of giving priority to earth scraping and tunnelling and increase the production capacities through extensive projects.

He gave instructions on developing the machine-building industry.

He said that if the Huichon general machine tool works, the Chonchon rock-drill factory and other machine-building factories in the province are to produce larger quantities of good-quality machines, the automation of production processes should be promoted more dynamically through an extensive technical innovation movement.

He gave instructions on developing the foodstuff industry.

Noting that big efforts should be directed to the development of the foodstuff industry, he said that the capacities of the existing foodstuff factories should be increased and more foodstuff factories such as breweries and kimchi and cigarette factories should be built.

He advanced the tasks of the transport.

Saying that railway transport, the pilot of the national economy, should be actively developed, he said that the northern railways between Manpo and Hyesan splendidly built by young people through a heroic struggle should be electrified in a short span of time in order to increase the traffic capacity.

He said Chagang Province with many rivers and streams and mountains should pay due attention to developing the water and auto transport.

He gave instructions on properly carrying on city construction and management.

He stressed the need to build Kanggye and other cities well in a prospective way and build larger numbers of modern dwelling houses and cultural recreation grounds for the working people.

He said that the August 2 cement factory should increase production and more building-material bases should be built.

He advanced the task of agriculture.

He said that farming should be done well in conformity with the specific conditions of the mountainous area by continuing to implement the *chuche* method of farming thoroughly.

Noting that the main task of the agriculture in the province abundant with sharply sloping areas is to do sericulture well by extensively creating mulberry fields and, at the same time, cultivate various industrial crops suitable to the geographical conditions of the province, he indicated concrete ways of fulfilling this task.

Mass Rally Denounces South, U.S. 'Imperialists'

*SK3009103791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1022 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Text] Pyongyang September 30 (KCNA)—Citizens of Kaesong held a mass meeting on September 29 and denounced the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities who had brutally murdered Han Kuk-won, a postgraduate of Seoul National University.

At the meeting the speakers said the fatal shooting at Han Kuk-won clearly showed that the No Tae-u "Sixth Republic" dictatorship is a most truculent fascist dictatorship far outdistancing the "Yusin" and "Fifth Republic" dictatorship and an unheard-of brutal murderous rule.

They noted that the South Korean authorities resort to reckless manoeuvrings to find a way out of their political crisis in bayonet-brandishing.

The root cause of all misfortunes of our nation is the U.S. troops' occupation of South Korea, they said.

However desperately the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities may brandish the bayonet, they can never bar the struggle of the South Korean students and patriotic people for independence against the U.S. and for national reunification.

South Korea

Foreign Ministry Views New U.S. Nuclear Policy

SK2809053691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0517 GMT
28 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—Sweeping reductions in the worldwide U.S. nuclear arsenal will affect South Korea, but the U.S. nuclear umbrella will remain through long-range ballistic missiles, a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official said Saturday.

The United States, in the "not-too-far-away future," will be able to announce its elimination of tactical weapons, including those in South Korea, the official said.

"After the announcement, North Korea's long-held condition that U.S. nuclear weapons be withdrawn from the South before it signs a Nuclear Safeguards Accord will no longer be valid," he said.

North Korea, insisting that U.S. nuclear weapons withdrawn from the South, is delaying its signing of a safeguards accord that would open its nuclear facilities to international inspection.

U.S. President George Bush had sent a letter to President No Tae-u explaining his nuclear initiative, the official said.

Korea was also briefed at the United Nations when Secretary of State James Baker notified NATO foreign ministers of Bush's plan. South Korean Ambassador to United Nations No Chang-hui attended the meeting, the official said.

Under Bush's proposal, any tactical weapons in South Korea would taken back to the United States and destroyed.

Neither Seoul nor Washington will confirm or deny the presence of nuclear weapons in Korea.

"The part about tactical weapons will affect the nuclear policy on the Korean peninsula, but the United States maintains its inter-continental ballistic missiles, which will keep South Korea under its nuclear umbrella," he said.

"The new U.S. initiative is globally oriented and will not affect the planned scaleback of U.S. troops stationed in South Korea," he said, denying the cutback may be expedited.

There are 43,000 U.S. troops based in South Korea, and 7,000 non-combatants are to be sent back by the end of next year under the U.S. East Asia strategic initiative.

"South Korea urges that the United States set the precedent in nuclear withdrawal and that other nations take reciprocal steps to match the U.S. action," the official said.

No Tae-u Welcomes, Supports Bush Arms Proposal

SK2809032991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0300 GMT
28 Sep 91

[Text] Honolulu, Sept. 27 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u welcomed U.S. President George Bush's worldwide nuclear initiative Friday and urged the removal of all nuclear weapons from Northeast Asia.

"President No welcomed and gave his full support to President Bush's worldwide nuclear initiatives announced today as an epoch-making step toward world peace," Presidential spokesman Yi Su-chong said in a statement.

"President No hoped the Soviet Union and other nuclear powers would respond to the U.S. initiatives with corresponding measures. He also urged strongly that the countries concerned must take measures to remove all nuclear weapons from Northeast Asian region," he said.

"President No will continue to cooperate actively with the relevant countries and take necessary measures so that the new U.S. nuclear initiatives can be translated into tension reduction, military confidence-building and arms reduction for building a peace structure in Northeast Asia, including the Korean peninsula," the statement said.

It recalled No's Sept. 24 keynote speech at the U.N. General Assembly, in which he stressed limiting the use of nuclear energy to peaceful purposes.

The South Korean leader, now here on his way home from a trip to the United Nations and Mexico, repeated his demands that North Korea immediately renounce its nuclear weapons development program and unconditionally accept outside inspection of its nuclear materials and facilities.

"The U.S. Government has had close consultation with the Republic of Korea on its new nuclear initiatives," Yi said. "President Bush, in his letter of advance notice to President No, specifically reaffirmed that the United States commitment to the security of Korea remained rock-solid."

Says Cuts Unlikely Soon

*SK3009041991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0042 GMT
30 Sep 91*

[Text] Honolulu, Sept. 29 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u indicated Saturday that it would take some time for the United States to dismantle its arsenal of short-range, ground-launched nuclear missiles because U.S. President George Bush had called on the Soviet Union and other nuclear states to make similar cuts.

No, resting on his way home from a trip to the United Nations and Mexico, told Korean reporters accompanying him that Korea would remain under the U.S. nuclear umbrella even if tactical weapons were removed from overseas U.S. bases.

"President George Bush's initiative would contribute to easing tensions on the Korean peninsula and forming an atmosphere for South and North Korea to reduce arms," he said.

He stressed, however, that the nuclear development of North Korea and the U.S. nuclear initiative were separate issues and should never be linked.

"By Bush's new nuclear plan, Pyongyang was left with no excuse to develop nuclear weapons," he said.

Unless the North abandoned its nuclear development project, it was possible for its nuclear facilities to be forcefully inspected with approval of the U.N. Security Council, he said.

Nuclear issues would be discussed in the fourth round of the inter-Korean prime ministers' talks, scheduled for late October, No said.

"The government will prepare specific plans to expedite arms control on the Korean peninsula as the time has come to do so," he said when asked about a response to the U.S. announcement.

No Tae-U Delivers Statement on Return

*SK3009091791 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network
in Korean 0655 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Speech by ROK President No Tae-u on arrival at Seoul Airport—live]

[Text] I have just arrived after participating in the UN General Assembly session and concluding an official visit to Mexico. How are you, all my fellow countrymen!

The era of passivity has ended in which our national destiny was decided by other people. The era of unreasonableness has ended in which we, as an outsider, have had no alternative but to stand outside the international stage until today, when all the people of the world are living daily in close cooperation.

As a member of the United Nations, our country can now not only speak for and contribute to our nation's problems but to peace in the world and the welfare and interest of mankind. I told the UN General Assembly that our country, which has become a full member of the international community, will play a leading role for harmony and prosperity on the Korean peninsula, in Northeast Asia, and in the world in general. The cold war structure, which had brought the tragedy of division and war and which had blocked our way, has crumbled in the international community.

I share with all of you joy over the fact that our northern diplomacy, which we have carried out, has brought this great result in three years. As part of our northern policy, we established relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and all the countries in Eastern and Central Europe. As a result, the entire world has become the stage for our people's activities, and North and South Korea have entered the United Nations.

We are at a new starting point for peaceful reunification. By abiding by the UN Charter, both the North and South must establish relations of co-existence and co-prosperity. This will be a basis on which the 70 million fellow countrymen will open the era of reunification.

Honoring human dignity and rights is the responsibility of all UN member countries as stipulated in the UN Charter. And, freely exchanging people, materials, and information is a universal order honored by all the countries in this open world. Based upon this, North and South must resolve political and military matters and other confrontational factors independently. I believe that it will not take long for North Korea to open up, even though it is still under a hardened, closed system.

The world is being reborn after changing its order. The Soviet Union and all the East European countries have become completely different countries that pursue freedom and the market economy. The world is transforming itself into a community after crumbling the barriers that had severed it.

The Korean peninsula will not remain the only land which was divided by the cold war, and the division will end in this century. The talks between U.S. President Bush and me have consolidated my determination. The United States is positively supporting our efforts to achieve peace on the Korean peninsula and reunification and our policies toward that end. The talks again led me to believe that our country is an important partner of the United States and that ROK-U.S. relations are closer than ever before.

My meetings with General Secretary de Cuellar, representatives of various countries to the United Nations, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir, New Zealand Prime Minister Bolger, and leaders of various other countries also led me to see the ROK's heightened international prestige and the international community's high expectations for the ROK.

I made an official visit to Mexico. Thus, I laid a foundation for promoting practical relations so that Mexico, which has been a free trade district together with the United States and Canada, may be a bridgehead for our advance to North and South America.

President Salinas and the Mexican Government and people wholeheartedly welcomed our delegation. In addition, they are filled with resolution and desire to further develop friendly and cooperative relations with our country to a higher level as a partner of the Pacific era.

Respected fellow countrymen, in this century, the world has caused us to suffer more sufferings and tribulations than anyone else. However, the world is changing concerning the sphere of our activities. In addition, it promises to bless the future of our fellow countrymen.

There will be no longer such a history that other countries divide our country behind our backs. There should be no more the tragedy where fellow countrymen aimed their guns at each other and where many parents mourned the death of their young sons.

We will stand in the vanguard to open the era of peace on this land. U.S. President Bush announced that all nuclear weapons deployed overseas will be withdrawn, and he firmly pledged that the U.S. commitment to the ROK security is steadfast and firm as a rock.

The withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed overseas will have a great effect on the security situation on the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia. All countries possessing nuclear weapons in Northeast Asia together with the United States should cut nuclear weapons and destroy them. By so doing, they should establish peace free from the danger of nuclear weapons in the northeast district, including the Korean peninsula.

The issue of preventing North Korea from developing nuclear weapons is the most urgent task of all international societies, including our country. North Korea must unconditionally abandon its nuclear weapon development and accept international inspection.

As a responsible member of the international society together with us and as the same nation, North Korea should agree to take a concrete step for removing the military confrontation and for establishing peace on the Korean peninsula. In addition, it should put into practice a concrete step.

We should lay a wide and firm foundation for reunification. To this end, we should further make more efforts for freedom and prosperity. No matter when a chance of reunification may come, all people and all circles should unite and thus make preparations to achieve reunification.

The day of reunification may be expedited and delayed by us. We were impressed by the people's desire for

freedom and prosperity that removed the high and hard barrier of the cold system, and achieved the reunification of the West-East Germany.

The waves of history, which have changed the world, have surged to the Korean peninsula and broken an aged deadlock situation, leading North Korea and South Korea to enter the United Nations. We should actively lead the waves to remove the barrier of division and achieve reunification.

Fellow countrymen:

Toward the glorious day of reunification, toward a wider world, and toward the bright future of the 70 million fellow countrymen, let us all pledge to vigorously advance with confidence and conviction.

The fellow countrymen in America are pleased at our being a UN member and our filled with a bigger hope.

I once again deeply thank our fellow countrymen for your encouragement.

Thank you. [applause]

'Urgent Meeting' Held on New U.S. Arms Policy

*SK2809034491 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0300 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] In connection with President Bush's epoch-making announcement on cutting nuclear weapons, the government held an urgent meeting and discussed measures about the issue concerning nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, about relations with North Korea, and about its influence on the Korean peninsula.

In connection with the new U.S. nuclear policy, the government held an urgent meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, in a conference room in Samchong-tong this morning.

At today's meeting, because the U.S. decision to withdraw its strategic nuclear weapons is related to the Korean peninsula, the government views that North Korea is no longer in a position to claim that the strategic nuclear weapons of the U.S. forces in Korea be removed. The government also views that North Korea is no longer in a position to claim that the Korean peninsula be turned into a nuclear-free zone.

The government decided to take a measure to lead North Korea to accept nuclear inspection at once.

Along with this, the government discussed the issue of security on the Korean peninsula in the wake of the U.S. decision to withdraw its strategic nuclear weapons, and decided to continue to closely cooperate with the United States for stability on the Korean peninsula and for peace in East Asia.

Seoul To Aid U.S. Initiative

SK2809061891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0556 GMT
28 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 28 (YONHAP)—The government decided Saturday, after hearing U.S. President George Bush announce the unilateral reduction of U.S. nuclear weapons, that it ought to figure out some new proposals for arms reduction on the Korean peninsula.

In a high-level meeting right after Bush's announcement, it was agreed to begin by asking North Korea to stop developing nuclear weapons.

The meeting concluded that the reduction included all of the tactical nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea.

"There was no mention in Bush's announcement that the Korean peninsula was excluded," an official close to the meeting said.

The meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, also decided to do something to help the U.S. initiative bring peace on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia by easing tension and reducing arms.

Deputy Prime Minister Choe Ho-chung, Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku, National Security Planning Director So Tong-kwon and Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha attended the meeting.

The participants agreed the U.S. reduction provided a complete environment to deter North Korean nuclear development and that South Korea should cooperate with other countries to get North Korea to sign a nuclear safeguards accord with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

North Korea has refused to sign an agreement until U.S. nuclear weapons are removed from South Korea.

They also said South Korea should urge China and the Soviet Union to take measures corresponding to the U.S. measures.

North Korea demands that the Korean peninsula be designated a nuclear-free zone and that U.S. Nuclear weapons be pulled out.

The U.S. measure will have a significant impact on relations between South and North Korea, so the government should find ways to expand dialogue with the north, including a summit, the official said.

South Korea should strongly urge China and the Soviet Union to remove nuclear weapons that are within range of the Korean peninsula, he said.

Cabinet To Further Discuss Proposals

SK3009031291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0258 GMT
30 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u will chair a special cabinet meeting

Tuesday to discuss urgent matters following U.S. President George Bush's nuclear initiative, and inter-Korean relations following joint admission of South and North into the United Nations.

No, due home Monday from the United Nations and Mexico, will brief the cabinet on the outcome of his trip and his discussion with Bush, government officials said.

The president is expected to reveal the government's basic positions on designating the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone, arms reduction, inter-Korean prime ministers' and summit talks, and North Korea's signing of a nuclear safeguards agreement and nuclear inspection in the cabinet meeting to be held in the presidential office.

The cabinet is expected to urge North Korea to immediately stop nuclear development and sign a nuclear safeguards agreement now that Bush has decided to scrap tactical nuclear weapons, ending the dispute over their existence in the South.

The cabinet is also expected to agree to put the nuclear issue on top of the agenda of the South-North Korean prime ministers' talks in Pyongyang Oct. 22.

The cabinet is expected to agree to work out new ways of arms reduction based on the assumption that nuclear weapons do not exist on the peninsula.

It will also discuss ways to realize a meeting between No and North Korean President Kim Il-song at an early date to extract agreements on arms reduction and easing of tension between South and North Korea.

Removal of Tactical Nuclear Weapons Planned

SK2809052591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0514 GMT
28 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—Tactical nuclear weapons will be removed from South Korea in the near future, a high ranking Korean official said Saturday.

The United States had decided to scrap all of the tactical nuclear arms it keeps in its overseas bases, including short-range ballistic, Pershing and cruise missiles.

He said that although reductions announced by U.S. President George Bush on Friday are limited to tactical nuclear arms, long-range strategic nuclear weapons would be cut when the strategic arms reduction talks between the United States and the Soviet Union are concluded.

Troop withdrawals from South Korea would be decided in consideration of the regional political situation, he added.

Defense Minister Says U.S. Umbrella To Remain*SK2809101091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0953 GMT
28 Sep 91*

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku said Saturday U.S. President George Bush's sweeping nuclear initiative would not necessarily leave a vacuum in U.S. deterrent to war in the region.

Answering questions during a second-day parliamentary inspection of his ministry, Yi stressed it should be noted that air-launched nuclear arms would not be affected by the new U.S. nuclear policy.

Citing the allied victory in the Gulf war as an instance, Yi said advanced military technology would be instrumental in resisting nuclear threats.

The top military official said South Korea would remain protected by the U.S. nuclear umbrella and U.S. commitment to South Korea's security would remain firm.

"I believe Bush's nuclear initiative would contribute substantially to ensuring stability in northeast Asia and to forming an atmosphere for North Korea to abandon its nuclear development program," Yi said.

Asked whether he expected any change in the U.S. "neither-confirm-nor-deny" [NCND] policy as for the alleged presence of U.S. tactical nuclear weapons in South Korea, Yi said, "Bush's initiative does not mean a change in the basic principle of the NCND policy. But the initiative evidently makes it a useless thing to do to argue about presence of nuclear weapons in South Korea any further."

"If U.S. nuclear weapons are deployed on the soil of the Korean peninsula, they will be removed in accordance with Bush's initiative. Our government will make clear its position on how to cope with the initiative after studying it more closely," he said.

Asked whether the U.S. NCND policy is still effective with regard to air-launched nuclear arms since U.S. Air Force elements are stationed in South Korea, he said, "maybe or maybe not. On the positive side, I can say South Korea is still under the U.S. nuclear umbrella," Yi said.

He said the Korean Government had been notified of Bush's nuclear initiative in advance.

Seoul and Washington had close consultations on nuclear problems involving the Korean peninsula in a bilateral working-level policy meeting in Washington in June and a White House summit in July between President No Tae-u and George Bush, he said.

Parties Hail President Bush's Nuclear Proposal*SK2809112791 Seoul YONHAP in English 1114 GMT
28 Sep 91*

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korea's ruling and opposition parties have welcomed U.S. President George Bush's sweeping nuclear initiative that will destroy its ground-based short-range nuclear weapons around the world.

Pak Hui-tae, spokesman for the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, called Bush's announcement "a green light" for ending the cold war around the world and ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula.

He called on North Korea to give up its nuclear development program immediately and accept outside inspection of its nuclear installations.

The opposition Democratic Party said in a statement that the party hailed Bush's nuclear initiative in that it would contribute to world peace and stability and hoped it would lead to the destruction of all nuclear weapons in the long run.

Party spokesman No Mu-hyon urged Pyongyang to sign the nuclear safeguards accord and abandon its nuclear development project since U.S. nuclear arsenals deployed in South Korea would be removed.

Review of Defense Policies Planned*SK3009072491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0639 GMT
30 Sep 91*

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States are expected to hold a working-level contact early next month to re-examine the overall picture of their bilateral defense policies in light of President George Bush's sweeping reduction of tactical nuclear weapons, Foreign Ministry officials said Monday.

The talks would precede the 23rd annual security consultative meeting (SCM) in Seoul Nov. 20-22 and involve working-level military officers and diplomats from both sides, they said.

In the preliminary talks to be held in Hawaii, the two allies are likely to discuss in depth ways to reduce arms on the Korean peninsula. Other topics might be ways to modernize conventional weapons in the south and the scheduled phaseout of U.S. troops stationed in Korea, they said.

The United States will soon notify Korea of the date of the meeting, they said.

"Bush's announcement to substantially reduce the U.S. nuclear arsenal around the world is absolutely in line with U.S. nuclear policy," an official said.

He predicted the "neither-confirm-nor-deny" policy of the United States regarding presence of U.S. nuclear

weapons in South Korea would not be affected by the move and that nuclear issues concerning the Korean peninsula would be decided after consultations between Seoul and Washington.

The government is preparing measures in case the North says it will halt development of nuclear weapons on condition that it is assured of the removal of U.S. nuclear arms from the South and that nuclear facilities in both Koreas are simultaneously laid open to international inspection, they said.

No Tae-u Interviewed on Reunification, UN Entry
SK2809133991 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
20 Sep 91 p 3

["Exclusive interview" with President No Tae-u by CHUNGANG ILBO editor-in-chief Song Chin-hyok on 20 September, on the 26th founding anniversary of the paper, at Chongwadae, Seoul]

[Excerpts] [Song Chin-hyok] You are scheduled to deliver a keynote speech at the UN General Assembly a few days from now. What impact do you think the simultaneous admission of the North and South into the United Nations will have on North-South relations and, going one step farther, on reunification of the Korean peninsula?

[No Tae-u] It has been the cold war structure that has stood in the way of Korea's admission into the United Nations. The UN admission of the North and South means the collapse of that cold war structure.

Now that they have become UN members, the North and South must give up the use of armed force and respect the UN Charter. This will pave the way for the coexistence and co-prosperity of the North and South. The separate admission of the North and South into the United Nations with two seats is a temporary step and will work to accelerate the reunification process. It is natural and historically inevitable for our fellow countrymen who have lived in a community to achieve reunification amid the changes that have brought down all the walls across the world.

[Song] You said that Korea would be reunified by the end of this century. Are you still optimistic about reunification? And what lesson do you think Korea has learned from the process of the two Germanys' reunification?

[No] Internally, North Korea is now going through an extreme form of difficulties.

Because it cannot hope for any assistance from the Soviet Union, North Korea may have difficulties in its day-to-day livelihood, ranging from petroleum to food-stuffs. In addition, it may be under mounting political difficulties domestically while struggling to keep the waves of reform from outside.

When the North Korean people know what is going on in the outside world, changes in North Korea will gather momentum. I am convinced that when a breakthrough is made in North-South relations, North Korea's changes will become torrential.

I believe that North Korea's taking a seat at the United Nations will serve as a starting point of great changes.

It is none other than the Korean people who were moved and shocked most by the German reunification. At the same time, we are very much worried about the danger caused by the exploding changes in North Korea that may come from within all at once.

We hope that changes will come slowly in North Korea, in an orderly manner. [passage omitted]

[Song] Have you ever thought of supporting the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula and its denuclearization in exchange for North Korea's discontinuing its nuclear development and agreeing to international nuclear inspection?

[No] North Korea should agree to nuclear inspection without any conditions. The partial denuclearization on the Korean peninsula alone is meaningless and impractical. If North Korea eases tensions in response to our call for military confidence-building and unquestionably abandons its nuclear development, we are willing to discuss with North Korea any issues as long as they are designed to remove the military confrontation.

[Song] What happened to the effort to have a summit meeting between you and President Kim Il-song?

[No] I have called for a North-South summit meeting in order to break the North-South logjam, and my proposal still stands valid. If North Koreans believe that a North-South summit meeting will only uplift the ROK president's political standing, they are wrong.

We can be of help to North Korea... [passage omitted]

[Song] Some say that since changes have occurred in North-South relations in the wake of their admission into the United Nations, there should be some change in the armistice structure accordingly. It is possible that changes in the armistice structure will lead to the disbandment of the UN Command and eventually to the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the South. What do you think of this?

[No] The North and South are in an uneasy state of armistice, neither war nor peace. So, an effort to replace the unstable truce structure with a peace structure should take precedence over everything. Not only have U.S. troops deterred war and challenges on the Korean peninsula, but they also have played a decisive role in stabilizing the Northeast Asia. U.S. troops have nothing to do with the truce structure.

[Song] What are the prospects for establishing diplomatic relations with China? Some say that the ROK's

becoming a UN member will quicken the establishment of diplomatic relations with China. When do you think you will visit China?

[No] China, too, signed the UN document that recommended Korea become a UN member. Our country's admission into the United Nations will hasten the normalization of ROK-China relations. The problem is "when?" As we are well aware of China's position and its diplomatic policy, we will not push for the establishment of diplomatic relations with China.

[Song] The UN admission of the North and South has opened a new horizon in North-South relations. I believe that there must be some changes in domestic politics accordingly.

[No] I think that a creative climate in which confrontation between political rivals focuses on policy should take root in domestic politics. [passage omitted]

[Song] Cochairman of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] Kim Yong-sam and cochairman of the New Democratic Party Kim Tae-chung are also going to New York. Do you intend to discuss with them such issues as realigning the political camps and constitutional revision?

[No] I do not find it necessary to discuss with them domestic political issues during our trips to a foreign country because I have been meeting with them often to discuss necessary issues. [passage omitted]

[Song] You said that the ruling party's contender for presidential power in the next elections should be decided reasonably. There are many interpretations about the true meaning of your remark. Do you intend to appoint your own successor or leave it to the outcome of a competition?

[No] We are talking about choosing our party's candidate for presidential office, not my successor, or are we? We have a stipulation in our party constitution that governs the choice of our party's next contender for presidential power. The DLP will elect a presidential candidate according to democratic procedures as stipulated in the party constitution. [passage omitted]

[Song] Lately, public feelings about an economic crisis have spread quickly and concern about it has risen quickly. Business firms seem to have lost the competitive edge in the international market, and foreign debt has risen to the level of \$10 billion, giving rise to worries that Korea may never get out of its current trouble. What is the government's diagnosis and prescription for this crisis?

[No] There may be many reasons why our economy has been led to its current state. What is clear at this moment is that all the domains of economy are going through structural changes. [passage omitted] The government will enforce a policy designed to stabilize prices and make the manufacturing sector regain its competitive edge in the international market. In the meantime, the

consumers, too, should start spending less. It is about time for the entire population to revive the spirit of industriousness, thrift, and austerity. [passage omitted]

[Song] In the process of democratization, our society seems to have lost its ability for self-control. Social order is greatly rocked by such things as corruption among government officials, excessive spending on luxury goods, and the increasing number of drug users.

[No] The government will be more strict in applying laws in order to cure the social ills and boldly reform ineffective systems and regulations. [passage omitted]

[Song] Now, you have entered the second half of your term of office. During the remainder of your term of office, where do you intend to put special emphasis?

[No] I am going to put particular stress on paving the way for peace and reunification. Democracy and reunification, however, can be achieved on the basis of economic strength. I will do my best in laying a foundation for uninterrupted economic growth.

[Editor's note] In concluding his interview, President No said that "in the new century, which is only a decade away, our country will have an entirely different look, and I hope that CHUNGANG ILBO will take the creative lead in such changes.

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Reunification

SK2809100291 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network
in Korean 1200 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Interview with Yi Sang-ok, ROK foreign minister, by KBS anchorman Pak Song-pom in New York—live]

[Text] [Yi Sang-ok and Pak Song-pom seen at a studio in front of the UN Building] [Pak Song-pom] How are you? You are the 22d ROK foreign minister. During your term in office, our country has entered the United Nations. Our country had persistently pushed ahead with its plan to enter the United Nations, considering it the most important goal of its diplomatic activities. I think you must have particular emotions on this.

[Yi Sang-ok] UN admission has been our country's earnest desire for the past 43 years. Personally, I am very honored to see our country enter the United Nations during my term in office. UN admission was the result of northern diplomacy, which President No Tae-u has positively carried out since he took office, and of the fact that an atmosphere of firm support for our UN admission had been prevailing. I am personally very emotional about this.

[Pak] During your speech to the General Assembly this morning, Korean time, you said that you hope the UN admission by North and South Korea would be an opportunity to overcome the division. What do you think we should do first to fulfill this hope?

[Yi] As North and South Korea have entered the United Nations, our country, as a UN member, will fulfill the goals and duties stipulated in the UN Charter, promote an atmosphere of North-South cooperation, and build a system toward that end. The ambassadors and counselors of the North and South Korean missions to the United Nations had contacted each other to discuss the UN admission procedure. Since North and South Korea have entered the United Nations, we are planning to establish consultative bodies in which North and South Korea will discuss and coordinate issues to be discussed in the United Nations.

[Pak] During his speech yesterday, the North Korean representative made remarks hinting at changes in North Korea's international relations and its relations with South Korea. What change can we expect in North Korea's attitudes now that it has entered the United Nations?

[Yi] Yesterday's speech by the North Korean representative appears to be softer. However, as you well know, the North Korean side has spoken one way and acted differently. I hope that, as long as it has entered the United Nations, North Korea, as a responsible member of the international community, will abide by and act in accordance with the international community's norms and principles. This would, I think, provide a good opportunity for the North and South to improve their relations by taking advantage of the UN arena.

[Pak] Our country's UN admission has given us rights and duties, as well, such as the possibility of our country's participation in peacekeeping forces. How will you carry out diplomacy with regard to the United Nations?

[Yi] As a UN member, we will play the roles that we should. We will also play our role of contributing to international peace and the common prosperity of mankind. We will seriously deliberate the contribution and cooperation that we should extend in the United Nations.

[Pak] You cannot reject the possibility of holding talks with the Soviet foreign minister and the North Korean foreign minister, can you?

[Yi] If I and they have natural opportunities to meet, we can meet. However, no specific talks have been pushed ahead.

[Pak] Thank you very much for coming here early in the morning.

[Yi] Thank you.

Soviet Envoy Discusses USSR's 'Transition'
SK3009061491 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
26 Sep 91 p 2

[Interview with Oleg Sokolov, Soviet ambassador to South Korea, by TONG-A ILBO reporters in Seoul on 25 September]

[Text] Oleg Sokolov, Soviet ambassador to the ROK, said on 25 September that the Soviet Union, according to the decision of its People's Congress, is strictly abiding by the international agreements and obligations it signed.

Ambassador Sokolov told this to Korean reporters at his embassy located at the Hannamdong, Yongsangu, Seoul, while explaining that the Soviet Union's state power organizations are in a transition period.

Ambassador Sokolov said that the Soviet Union's transition is a process of establishing a new system for the relations among the republics and of forming the power organizations in the republics.

He also said: The Soviet Union's current situation does not mean that it has a power vacuum. The Soviet Constitution will be effective unless it runs counter to the decision of the Soviet People's Congress. The state power organizations will continue to perform their functions during the transition.

North, South Foreign Ministers Active at UN
SK3009022191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT
30 Sep 91

[Text] United Nations, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—The foreign ministers of South and North Korea, two of the newest members of the United Nations, have embarked on hectic rounds of diplomatic activity.

South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok, who returned here Sunday from Mexico, will attend the foreign ministers' meeting of the Group of 77 Monday and have meetings with foreign ministers from about 10 countries.

North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, who is also a deputy prime minister, has been making unofficial contacts since he arrived here Friday with Prime Minister Yon hYong-muk.

Yi was in Mexico with President No Tae-u, who was making a state visit to the Central American country. He plans to meet with foreign ministers from countries with which Seoul does not have diplomatic relations, including Egypt and Syria, to discuss the establishment of formal ties at an early date.

He also plans to meet with the foreign ministers of Indonesia, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Jamaica, Guyana, Albania and Bulgaria.

In addition to meeting with foreign ministers, Yi will speak at numerous forums such as the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), the Korea Society and the Asia Society.

His addresses will focus on inter-Korean relations after U.N. admission, the situation on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia, the role of South Korea in the United Nations, and South-North Korean cooperation.

Kim plans to meet with foreign ministers from seven or eight countries, including Thailand and Indonesia, and was trying to contact diplomats from some Western Nations.

He is also scheduled to address the CFR, but on a different date than Yi.

The Korean foreign ministers are expected to meet as both are to attend the G-77 meeting Monday afternoon and a dinner jointly hosted by the foreign ministers of the six member-nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on Wednesday evening.

Large-Scale 'Riot' in DPRK 27 Sep Reported

SK2809073591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0717 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean Government has obtained sketchy information about a large-scale riot in North Korea's northwestern city of Sinuiju on Friday, a government official said Saturday.

The official said the information was tipped off by a trading company which is contacting North Korea through a Chinese middleman to import frozen thornbacks.

The company told the government that it was notified Friday by its Chinese middleman that a fresh protest in Sinuiju on that day caused trouble to his original plan to bring in frozen skate by Nov. 7.

The company, however, was unable to give detailed information on the reason for the protest or how serious it was, the official said.

The Chinese contact said the tumult was larger than one a month before but did not make clear why it started, how many people participated or whether it was put down, the company reportedly said.

The Japanese daily SANKEI SHIMBUN reported Friday that 4,000 people took part in an anti-Kim Il-song protest Aug. 27, right after the hard-liners' coup in the Soviet Union failed.

Businessman Confirms Demonstration

SK2809070491 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0630 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Our authorities obtained a report confirming the foreign news report that a people's uprising took place in Sinuiju City in North Korea.

An official of the government revealed that our authorities obtained such a fact through a person concerned with a K trade company importing frozen thornbacks from North Korea through the China trade.

The person concerned with a K trade company said to the government side that he was notified by a Chinese

business that, because a large-scale people's uprising took place on 27 August in Sinuiju, it will be difficult to import frozen thornbacks, which is expected to be done by 8 November.

North Premier To Speak on Nuclear Weapons at UN

SK2809060391 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 28 Sep 91 p 1

[Article by correspondent Yi Tong-chu from Tokyo]

[Text] On 27 September, Yon Hyong-muk, premier of North Korea, and Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and foreign minister of North Korea, stopped over at Narita Airport in Japan on their way to New York to attend the session of the UN General Assembly.

The 18-member North Korean delegation, including Premier Yon, arrived at Narita Airport on Chinese International Airline flight 929 on the afternoon of 27 September. After staying at a VIP room at the airport for approximately 50 minutes, it left for New York on United Airlines flight 800 at about 1650 [0750 GMT].

According to Dietman Ishii, who held a meeting with Premier Yon at the airport, Premier Yon will refer to the issue concerning nuclear weapons in his speech at the UN General Assembly and he will exchange opinions with U.S. Senators and members of the House of Representatives on the issue.

In connection with a reporters' question on "whether or not the North-South high-level talks will be held as scheduled," he answered "Yes." He, however, did not answer the questions about his impression on his stop-over in Japan and about the issue concerning President Kim Il-song's visit to China.

At the meeting with Chairman Ishii at the airport, he revealed that "I want to frankly exchange opinions with the representatives of the U.S. Government and the congressmen concerned over the issue of nuclear inspection during my visit to the United States."

Editorials View U.S. Arms Reduction Proposals

Called 'Dramatic Initiative'

SK2909012991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Sep 91 p 6

[Editorial: "Bush's Arms Cut Initiatives"]

[Text] Hard on the heels of the collapse of hard-line Communists in the Soviet Union, U.S. President George Bush has now taken the most dramatic initiative in the reduction of U.S. nuclear weapons since the start of the nuclear arms race in the early 1950s. Bush's disarmament proposal is rated as a most comprehensive change in U.S. military strategy.

The Bush proposal is focused on the elimination of the U.S.'s land-based tactical nuclear weapons and removal

of all its short-range atomic arms from its submarines and ships. The new proposal follows the U.S.-Soviet agreement on the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) that was signed in Moscow in July, last year but the new overture is far-ranging, marking a turning point in nuclear disarmament.

President Bush announced the sweeping measures as ones that the U.S. would take unilaterally, calling upon the Soviet Union to take similar steps to match them. He confidently asserted that now the Soviet people and their leaders can seize the opportunity to shed the heavy burden of a dangerous and costly nuclear arsenal which has threatened world peace for the past five decades.

What catapulted the U.S. leader to take such a bold and decisive step is certainly the diminishing danger of war in the course of the democratic reformists' triumphs in the Soviet Union, the crumbling of the Warsaw Pact, the disintegration of the totalitarian Soviet Union with the independence of the runaway Soviet republics and the weakening of the overall military strength of the Soviet federation.

At the same time, the U.S. President has to accommodate growing domestic opinion which is questioning the need for maintaining the huge arsenal in the present post-Cold War era. As Bush himself stated, "We can now take steps to make the world a less dangerous place than ever before in the nuclear age."

Bush disclosed that he had called Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, saying that their responses were positive and hopeful. Yeltsin was quick to announce that Russia would participate in working out specific steps in the military sphere to build upon the Bush initiative.

It is expected that Moscow will soon give a formal response to the U.S. proposal for the destruction of their entire inventory of ground-launched nuclear weapons and that the two countries will start negotiations for an agreement on the elimination of all long-range ballistic missiles with multiple warheads. As if to spark such reciprocal action, Bush said that he would order U.S. strategic bombers to immediately stand down from their alert posture.

Gorbachev has come under realistic and moral pressure to follow the lead of the Bush call and make use of an unparalleled opportunity to change the nuclear posture of both the United States and the Soviet Union.

It is considered a major U.S. concession to the Soviets, that Bush pledged to destroy or mothball an estimated 400 nuclear-tipped Tomahawk cruise missiles from U.S. Navy warships, despite their superiority over Soviet Union armament.

However, it is to be noted that Bush, deliberately or not, has kept intact some controversial weapons systems—the B-2 bomber and elements of the Strategic Defense Initiative or

Star Wars. The United States and Western allies will maintain nuclear missiles and bombs aboard aircraft in Europe, but the Bush disarmament step will bring about a fundamental change in U.S.-Soviet nuclear arrangements.

The new series of arms cut measures are more than welcome to the U.S.'s NATO allies. As a matter of fact, Bush reportedly consulted on the initiatives with British Prime Minister John Major, French President Francois Mitterrand and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, and therefore, the proposal has not elicited reactions of surprise.

As for Korea, it is noted that the ground-launched, short-range nuclear weapons that are to be eliminated are mostly based in Europe but there are some here. The peace initiative is welcome, but it should not affect the regional security system as set up under the global arms reduction program.

The Korean government, it is disclosed, received prior notice from Washington of the disarmament proposal with the U.S. assurance of protection under its nuclear umbrella. This is necessary, of course, especially as Pyongyang is secretly developing nuclear weapons, refusing to allow international inspections of its nuclear facilities and materials.

'Comprehensive Changes' Viewed

*SK2909015391 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 29 Sep 91 p 8*

[Editorial: "Bush's N-Arms Initiative"]

[Text] The stirring announcement by U.S. President George Bush yesterday that the United States will eliminate all its land-based tactical nuclear weapons and remove all short-range atomic arms from U.S. submarines and ships certainly signals, both materially and symbolically, the very beginning of a new era in which the superpowers can be geared towards closer cooperation for world peace. Epitomizing the historic announcement, President Bush declared that the superpowers can now take steps to make the world "a less dangerous place than ever before in the nuclear age."

In unequivocal terms, not without persuasiveness, Bush asked the Soviet Union to reciprocate by destroying its entire inventory of ground-launched theater nuclear weapons. He expressed his confidence that the Kremlin leadership's response would be positive.

To say the least, Bush's sweeping new initiatives mark one of the broadest and most comprehensive changes in U.S. nuclear strategy since the start of the nuclear arms race in the early 1950s. They appear to be aimed not so much at merely lowering world-wide military tension as in evolving a new U.S.-Soviet relation that surely fits into a new world order.

Since the leaders in the Kremlin and the republics in the Soviets have been openly questioning their need to maintain a huge nuclear arsenal at the expense of a deteriorating

economy, Bush's proposal would be an unparalleled opportunity for the Soviet Union to undertake a sweeping change in its nuclear posture. Once Moscow shows responsiveness to the new initiative and a quick agreement is reached, the two superpowers can then sit down and hammer out better terms on which to work for closer economic cooperation that the Soviets desperately need to get ahead with its perestroika policies.

But nuclear arms control cannot be limited to the superpowers. It should be expanded so as to embrace the Third World, given the threats posed by potential nuclear and missile proliferation elsewhere. This naturally brings attention to the nuclear potential of North Korea whose real intention, despite its professed decision to abide by the terms laid down by the International Atomic Energy Agency, is yet to be known. Pyongyang has used all plausible pretexts to avoid an international inspection of its nuclear facilities. But, Bush's bid will leave no excuse whatsoever for Pyongyang to retain such recalcitrance.

Superpowers must work together to eliminate the suspicion standing in the way of removing all legacies of the Cold War from this part of the world. The influence of the United States and the Soviet Union should be so steered as to induce stability and reconciliation in Korea and in the Northeast Asian region. Bush's initiative is looked upon to produce a gigantic, tangible boon to humanity as an outgrowth of the collapse of the Cold War.

'Warning' Against DPRK

SK2909014791 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 29 Sep 91 pp 2-3

[News analysis by correspondent Kang Song-chol]

[Text] Honolulu, Hawaii—The new U.S. nuclear policy announced by President Bush Friday will put the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula in quite a different light from the past.

The dramatic policy change will serve as a warning against North Korea regarding its development of nuclear arms, security analysts say.

Applied to the Korean Peninsula, the U.S. initiative will mean the withdrawal of U.S. tactical nuclear weapons if they ever existed.

Washington neither confirms nor denies [NCND] the existence of nuclear arms. Seoul has conformed with the so-called NCND policy.

The removal of U.S. nuclear arms from South Korea will deprive the North of the key reason it has long cited in refusing to accept international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

The North became a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1985, but it has yet to sign a mandatory safeguards accord with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"The latest U.S. nuclear policy will have both direct and indirect influence on such countries as Iraq and North Korea suspected of developing nuclear weapons," said Kim Chong-hwi, South Korean President No Tae-u's national security adviser.

The North is believed to be capable of producing nuclear arms within a few years. One North Korean defector to the South recently said there exists an underground test site for nuclear explosions.

Seoul and Washington in recent months have stepped up diplomatic efforts to push IAEA's inspection of nuclear facilities in North Korea.

Seoul and Washington are expected to marshal all diplomatic efforts to enforce the inspection, regardless of the North's intention.

One of Seoul's security policy-makers predicted that the United States will not rule out the possibility of taking military action against the North if it continues to decline to accept international inspections.

"The withdrawal of its tactical nuclear weapons from around the world will give the United States a kind of justification in using some forcible means," he said.

Seoul's Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku earlier this year said commando raids might be considered against North Korean nuclear facilities, though he later dismissed the remark as a slip of the tongue.

Yi Friday made similar remarks in response to questions by lawmakers.

South Korean government officials appear to believe that the North will have no other choice but to change its restive attitude.

They say North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk may mention the subject in his address to the U.N. General Assembly Oct. 2.

They say they have been in close contact with the United States over the nuclear issue, but Seoul may have gotten a clear picture on the new U.S. nuclear policy just quite recently.

In his U.S. speech last Tuesday, President No said he is ready to discuss with the North the nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula, if the North abandons its nuclear weapons development program.

The expression would have been different had No been aware of the change in the U.S. nuclear policy, they assert.

No's security adviser Kim said he was informed of the U.S. policy shift by U.S. Undersecretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz last Sunday in New York.

There may be no denying that Seoul has tried hard to resolve the Korean nuclear question which has been a major stumbling block to progress in inter-Korean talks.

Consultations between Seoul and Washington about nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula are believed to have started at the summit talks between No and Bush held in Washington July 2.

The talks were followed the next month by a high-level policy consultation meeting in Hawaii between Kim and Wolfowitz.

"There have been discussions over policy options of both countries," Kim said.

The resolution of the nuclear question would help improve inter-Korean relations, analysts say. With the absence of the knotty nuclear question, the two Koreas would find it easier to engage in arms reduction talks and to make progress in promoting economic and various other forms of exchanges.

No, in his U.N. speech, proposed to North Korea the signing of a peace treaty, the promotion of arms reduction as well as economic and personnel exchanges.

On No's proposals and his call for inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities, one of the North's U.N. delegates responded negatively. He argued that it is contradictory for the South Korean President to urge the North to discard its nuclear program while the South is maintaining U.S. nuclear weapons.

The North's attitude will be different once the South is free of any nuclear arms, the analysts say.

The new U.S. nuclear policy is expected to speed up the process of reducing tension and promoting peace throughout the world.

Such a development will definitely have a positive effect on inter-Korean relations, the analysts say.

Some South Korean people may be worried about the security situation on the peninsula following the removal of U.S. nuclear weapons.

To allay such concerns, Bush wrote a letter to No Friday, stating that the U.S. commitment to the defense of South Korea will remain "rock solid."

Officials say that even without the U.S. nuclear weapons, South Korean and U.S. forces in the South are fully capable of deterring any North Korean armed attack against the South.

Northeast Asian Economic Cooperative Planned

*SK2809151191 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
23 Sep 91 p 1*

[Report by Yi Chae-ho from New York]

[Text] It was learned on 23 September that due North and South Korea's UN admission, the government has decided to actively promote the establishment of an "economic cooperative body in Northeast Asia." Seven Northeast Asian countries, North and South Korea, the United States,

Japan, China, the Soviet Union, and Mongolia, would participate in it. It was also learned that the government has started preparatory work for this.

It was learned that the government decided to promote such a policy, judging that the possibility of organizing a multinational economic cooperative body in this area has increased greatly because the greatest political barrier that has prevented multinational economic cooperation in the Northeast Asian region has disappeared, due to North and South Korea's UN admission. This is also because the ROK, the United States, and Japan have showed active willingness to participate in the Tuman River basin development, which is currently being promoted by North Korea and China.

A government authority participating in the UN General Assembly stated: "By actively applying the new environment of peaceful coexistence being created due to North and South Korea's UN admission, it is critically necessary to establish an economic cooperative body in Northeast Asia to achieve co-prosperity in this region and to induce North Korea to carry out active reform and opening up. As a followup measure of the ROK's UN admission, related ministries, such as the Foreign Ministry and the Economic Planning Board, have already started the examination work to promote the establishment of this economic cooperative body."

This government authority continued to say: "Along with the parties concerned, which are North Korea and China, Northeast Asian countries, including the ROK, the United States, and Japan, are showing active willingness to participate in the Tuman River basin development and in creating a special economic zone, which are currently being promoted under the supervision of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Whatever the form, if results are achieved in the plan to develop the Tuman River basin, the establishment of the economic cooperative body in Northeast Asia will be all the more promoted in a full-scale."

This government authority also said: "Related government authorities will be sent to the meeting on developing Tuman River that is expected to take place from 18 October in Pyongyang so that they can find out what participants from North Korea, China, the Soviet Union, the United States, and Japan think regarding this matter."

With regard to this, another authority stated: "If an economic cooperative body in Northeast Asia is established, this will be the most effective way in establishing mutual trust and promoting cooperation, because Northeast Asian countries are still in confrontation in political, military, and security interests."

First Korean-Made Nuclear Reactor Passes Tests

*SK3009025991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0214 GMT
30 Sep 91*

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 30 (YONHAP)—Tests have been completed on the first nuclear reactor built entirely with

South Korean technology and it has been rated 100-percent free of defects, a spokesman for the builders, Korea Heavy Industries and Construction Co. (KHIC), said Monday.

In a water pressure test at Yongkwang nuclear power plant No. 3 in South Cholla Province, the reactor was found to be defect-free, he said, adding his company has become the 10th firm worldwide to achieve 100 percent localization of a nuclear reactor, the core facility for atomic power generation.

Officials from the Korea Electric Co., American Society of Mechanical Engineer and Combustion Engineering Co., a technical cooperation company with KHIC, watched the test.

KHIC has spent 600 million won on research and development and 3.4 billion won on facilities to localize the nuclear reactor since 1988 and finally achieved localization after 25 simulated tests over two years.

As KHIC has succeeded in producing an all-Korean nuclear reactor, Korea can now save 10.6 billion won a reactor through import substitution and win overseas contracts for nuclear power plant construction, he said.

Cabinet Passes Bill Easing Emigration Rules

SK2709003591 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Sep 91 p 2

[Text] When Koreans want to emigrate, they will simply be required to report to the authorities instead of acquiring approval from the government.

The cabinet yesterday passed a bill to that effect.

The measure, a revision of the Emigration Law, will be sent to the National Assembly soon, officials said.

Currently, people wanting to resettle in foreign nations must get government permission.

The bill would also oblige Korean emigrants to discard the nationality of their host countries if they return to their motherland for good. This is aimed at preventing Korean emigrants from returning here without giving up their former nationality, a Foreign Ministry official said.

He said his ministry asked the Finance Ministry to increase the cash limit emigrants can carry out of the country.

A Finance Ministry official said his ministry will prepare new regulations which would raise the cash limit for emigrants after a foreign exchange management bill clears the national legislature.

Easing regulations regarding the emigration of Koreans reflects the new international environment in which nations such as the United States and Canada are prepared to accept more immigrants, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The United States has raised the maximum number of immigrants to 700,000 in 1992 from 500,000 the year before, they said.

Canada has also upped its immigration quota to 220,000 for 1992, up 10 percent from 1991, they said.

The number of Korean emigrants has been on the decline.

Last year 23,300 Koreans emigrated to foreign countries. The number of emigrants was 26,200 in 1989, 31,500 in 1988 and 34,800 in 1987.

Meanwhile, so-called "reverse emigrants," people who return to their native land, are on the rise. In 1987, 3,300 Koreans living abroad returned.

Typhoon Leaves Two Dead, Substantial Damages

SK2809012791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0048 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korea was completely free of the influence of Typhoon Mireille early Saturday after the storm scraped the southeastern coast, taking two lives.

As Mireille, which triggered downpours, veered off into the Sea of Japan toward Japan's northern main island of Hokkaido, the sun began to shine and the wind dropped. All typhoon warnings were lifted.

The central anti-calamities headquarters reported two deaths, two people missing and 101 million won in property damage as of 5 a.m. Saturday.

Kim Mi-kyong, 20, was killed by a collapsing brick wall blown down by the strong winds at 5 p.m. and Kim Sung-un, 55, who was fishing with a net on Cheju Island's southern shore, drowned after he was swept away by waves.

Samchok had the heaviest rainfall, 182.5 millimeters, followed by 168.2 mm in Taekwannyon, 166 mm in Taebak and 155 mm in Namhae as of 6 a.m. Saturday.

The Korea Meteorological Administration [KMA] said five typhoons had influenced the Korean peninsula this year and the average for a year is three. Korea's typhoon season typically lasts from June until the end of September.

KMA forecast normal autumn weather to follow under the influence of a high pressure system.

President Arrives in Mexico for Visit

WA3009132691

For reportage on the visit by President No Tae-u to Mexico, including reports on his talks with Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, Foreign Relations Secretary Fernando Solana and Commerce Secretary Jaime Serra Puche, please see the Mexico section of the 25 September Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Burma

Commission Announces Resignation of NLD Member

*BK2709144091 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 27 Sep 91*

[Announcement No. 969 of the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar [Burma]; dated 27 September 1991]

[Text] Subject: U Tin Myint, elected representative from Thayetchaung township constituency, Tenasserim Division, given permission to resign.

1. U Tin Myint, who represented the National League for Democracy [NLD] and was elected from Thayetchaung township constituency, Tenasserim division, during the multiparty democratic general elections, has voluntarily sought permission from the commission to vacate his seat.

2. Acting on the above submission by U Tin Myint, and in accordance with Article 11-E of the Elections Law, the elections commission hereby permits the resignation of U Tin Myint as representative from Thayetchaung township constituency, Tenasserim division, with effect from today.

By the authority vested in me,

Signed: Aye Maung, secretary.

Rangoon Insurgents Surrender 27 Jul-8 Aug

*BK2909081291 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] People belonging to various terrorist insurgent organizations who have come to realize their wrongdoing have been giving up their armed struggle and surrendering at different army camps with arms and ammunition. Accordingly, the following surrenders took place between 27 July-8 August 1991:

Northern Military Command: Corporal Kyaw U of the terrorist insurgent KIA's [Kachin Independence Army] 5th Battalion surrendered at Yohong camp. Private Toe Aung Gyaw of the 251st Battalion surrendered at Hoping camp. Pvts. Maung Ko and Maung Win of the 1st Battalion gave themselves up at Daw Phone Yang camp. Pvt. Kyan Lin of the 254th Battalion surrendered with an M-22 automatic rifle at Na-long camp. Pvt. Man Aung of the 3d Battalion gave himself up at No. 2 Resettlement Camp, and Pvt. Taung Pai surrendered at Long Chein camp.

Pvt. Nay Lin of the terrorist insurgent ABSDF's [All Burma Students' Democratic Front] 701st Battalion surrendered at Myitkyina Garrison.

Southeast Military Command: Lance Corporal Thet Htwe Lay of the ABSDF's 201st Battalion surrendered at Palaw camp. Pvt. Min Aung gave himself up at Mergui Garrison.

Pvts. Shwe Win and Thant Zin of the 203d Battalion surrendered at Kyaukka People's Police Force. Pvt. Maung Maung Htay surrendered at Tenasserim Division.

Maung Khwe, officer in charge of the terrorist insurgent Karen National Union's [KNU] Eastern Region, surrendered at Nat-hti camp.

Southern Military Command: Pvts. Pho Kaw, Ye Tun, and Khin Swe U of the KNU's 8th Battalion surrendered with two M-16 automatic rifles at Kyaukkyi.

Eastern Military Command: Pvt. Simon Nge of the terrorist insurgent KNLP's [Kayah New Land Party] surrendered to the Loikaw Township Law and Order Restoration Council.

Pvts. Aik Kay and Aik Nan of the terrorist insurgent SUA's [Shan United Army] 61st Battalion surrendered with one M-21 automatic rifle and one double-barrel at Mong Hsat garrison. Pvts. Aik Ngwe and San Aw of the 58th Battalion surrendered with two M-16's at Bon Parkyin camp.

Hence, a total of 22 insurgents came back to the legal fold between 27 July and 8 August. These people who had returned after realizing the truth and giving up the armed struggle were warmly received by the responsible officials of the camps concerned.

More Surrender 9-16 Aug

*BK2909143791 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] People belonging to various terrorist insurgent organizations who have come to realize their wrongdoing have been giving up their armed struggle and surrendering at different Army camps with arms and ammunition. Accordingly, the following surrenders took place between 9-16 August 1991:

Northern Military Command: Private Zaw Lwe of the terrorist insurgent Kachin Independence Army's [KIA] 6th Battalion surrendered at Mogaung camp. Corporal Chit Wai, alias Khaw Sai, of the 254th Battalion surrendered with one M-22 rifle at Na-long camp. Pvt. Aung Di, alias Ba Maw, of the 14th Battalion gave himself up at Momauk camp. Pvt. Rin Khaw of the 3d Battalion surrendered at Waingmaw camp. Pvt. Myint Aung of the 6th Battalion gave himself up to the Shwebo Township Law and Order Restoration Council. Pvts. Jae Yaw, Aung Naing and Pang Si of the 1st Battalion surrendered with one M-21 automatic rifle and two BA-63 automatic rifles at Loi Mauk-yang camp. Sergeant Zaw Gaung, alias Zaw Cho Naing, of the KIA headquarters surrendered at Myitkyina garrison.

Western Military Command: Pvt. Aung Nyunt Tin of the terrorist insurgent ABSDF's [All Burma Students' Democratic Front] 901st Battalion surrendered at Rathedaung camp.

Northeast Military Command: Pvts. Tun Aye and Rakaithi of the KIA's 15th Battalion surrendered at Nai Ton camp.

Eastern Military Command: Pvt. Sai Tai of the terrorist insurgent SUA's [Shan United Army] 63d Battalion surrendered with one M-22 automatic rifle at Mong Hkak camp.

Sgt. San Nyunt of the terrorist insurgent SURA's [Shan United Revolutionary Army] 29th Battalion surrendered with one M-22 automatic rifle at Mong Pan camp.

Southeast Military Command: Medical Officer Tun U, Sgt. M. Yang, and Pvt. Than Tun of the ABSDF's 203d Battalion surrendered at Mayanbin camp. Pvts. San Lwin and Ko U of the 203d Battalion and Pvt. Kya Pin of the 201st Battalion surrendered at Palat camp. Pvt. Maung Lwin gave himself up at Palaw camp.

Pvt. Saw Lin Ohn of the KNU's 6th Brigade surrendered at Myawadi camp.

Hence, a total of 22 insurgents came back to the legal fold between 9 and 16 August. These people who had come returned after realizing the truth and giving up the armed struggle were warmly received by the responsible officials of the camps concerned.

Brunei, Malaysia, & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Returns Home After Mexico, U.S. Trip

BK2909073891 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia
in English 0600 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir returned home this morning after a 12-day trip abroad. He visited Mexico, and addressed the UN General Assembly in New York.

Among those at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Subang to receive him were Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba, Justice Minister Syed Hamid Albar, and Deputy Home Minister Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayub.

The prime minister's official visit to Mexico has brought about closer ties in the economic and political fields between the two countries.

The prime minister had described the visit as most successful. He was accompanied a (?23)-member delegation from the private sector. Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir also said Mexican President Salinas will be visiting Malaysia next year.

Japanese Emperor, Empress Arrive for State Visit

BK3009065591 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia
in English 0600 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Emperor Akihito of Japan and Empress Michiko have arrived on a four-day state visit to Malaysia. The visit is the first abroad for Emperor Akihito after his ascension to the throne in January 1989. The royal couple were received at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport by the prime minister, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir; the minister of foreign affairs, Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi; and the minister-in-attendance, Datuk Sri Dr. Lim Keng Yaik, who is also the minister of primary industries.

The emperor and the empress will attend a welcoming ceremony at the Parliament Square. Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko will call on their majesties the King Sultan Azlan Shah and Queen Tuanku Bainun. Later, the prime minister and his wife will have an audience with the emperor and the empress. The emperor will present the award Grand [word indistinct] of the Order of the Rising Sun to the prime minister. The royal visitors will also attend a state banquet tonight at the Istana Negara [state palace].

The four-day visit will be part of the Japanese royal couple's Southeast Asian tour which includes Thailand and Indonesia. Observers see the visit to Malaysia as an epoch-making one. It will also augur well for the existing close ties between Malaysia and Japan.

Navy Prepared To 'Step Up' Spratly's Security

BK2709110391 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 26 Sep 91 p 6

[Excerpt] Kuala Lumpur, Wed.—The Royal Malaysian Navy [RMN] will step up security in Pulau Layang-Layang if current situation in the Spratly Islands deteriorates, its chief Laksamana Madya [Vice Admiral] Datuk Sri Mohamed Shariff Ishak said today.

"We are monitoring the situation. If the situation warrants it, we will send in more ships and navy personnel to the area," he told reporters after launching a book titled *Membelah Ombak* which accounts the history of the RMN at the Defence Ministry here.

"The present security arrangement suits our requirements. If the status quo is maintained, we will only be exhausting our assets (by sending more ships and men to the island)."

Commenting on recent reports that Taiwan had protested against Malaysia's plan to develop and build a 1.5 km airstrip on Pulau Layang-Layang, he said the republic did not dispute the presence of Malaysian troops on the island.

Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak had on Sept 16 said Malaysia would go ahead with the plans despite the foreign protests.

The RMN operates a forward naval base, Stesen Lima [Station Five], on the island and has troops on two other atolls, Terumbu Ubi (Station Uniform) and Terumbu Mantanani (Station Mike).

Pulau Layang-Layang and the two atolls are part of the Spratly Islands which are partly or wholly claimed by China, Vietnam, Taiwan, the Philippines, and Malaysia.

Laksamana Madya Datuk Sri Mohamed Shariff said the RMN plans to replace the aging patrol craft, most of which are about 30 years old, with new vessels.

"We have an immediate need of 20 new patrol vessels of between 1,000 and 1,200 tonnes, although our requirements are higher," said the Navy Chief.

He added that local shipyards like Naval Dockyard Sdn Bhd in Lumut, Hong-Leong-Lurssen in Butterworth and Malaysian Shipping and Engineering Sdn Bhd in Pasir Gudang would be given the opportunity to build some of the ships.

He said although the existing vessels in the RMN were insufficient, the Navy was able to perform its tasks as navy personnel were well-trained and capable of absorbing high naval defence technology. [passage omitted]

BN3 Wins Majority in Sarawak State Election

BK2809145191 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] The Barisan Nasional Tiga [BN3] can now form a state government in Sarawak after winning 41 seats out of 54 seats. More results are coming in now.

The latest result is that the Minister of Development and Infrastructure, Datuk Amar Wong Soon Kai, who is also the acting SUPP [Sarawak United People's Party] president, beat the DAP [Democratic Action Party] candidate Wong Sing Ming with the majority of 6,353 votes. The PBDS [Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak] has won so far five seats.

The Sarawak Chief Minister, Tan Sri Haji Taib Mahmud retained the Jaya seat with the majority of 3,136 votes. He polled 4,601 votes beating three other candidates from PERMAS [Parti Rakyat Malaysia Sarawak], Parti NEGARA [Parti Rakyat Negeri Sarawak], and DAP.

The Deputy Chief Minister, Datuk Amar Alfred Jabu also retained the Layan seat with a majority of 2,486, beating Frank Akau from PBDS.

The President of SNAP [Sarawak National Party], Datuk Amar James Wong also retained the Limbang constituency. The BN3 also won in Tasik Biru Semerah, Krian, Belawai, Sergeng, Meradong, Repok, Meluan, Bawang Assan, Seduan, Dalat, Belaga, Merudi, Telang Usan, and Lawas.

The PBDS won the Balir and Tamin seats.

Chief Minister Sworn In

BK2909082491 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] In the Sarawak state election, the Barisan Nasional has been returned to power with a massive new mandate. It won 49 of the 56 seats. Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak [PBDS] won the remaining seven seats. All state ministers, including the chief minister, were returned.

Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Taib Mahmud won the Asa Jaya seat for the majority of 3,486 votes. He beats three other candidates. All opposition leaders lost, except the deputy president of PBDS Daniel Kading.

Out of the 155 candidates contesting, 53 of them lost their deposits. The Democratic Action Party [DAP] again failed to gain a foothold in Sarawak's politics and all its candidates lost.

The chief minister took his oath of office before the Governor, Tun Haji Ahmad Zaidi Adruce Mohamed Noor, at 10.52 [1652 GMT] last night.

He later told the news conference that the BN's victory shows that the people of Sarawak do not want "racial politics" to become a problem among the various ethnic groups in the state. The people do not want the racial harmony being enjoyed now to be disrupted.

Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba terms the Barisan Nasional's victory as proof that the people of Sarawak rejects "racial politics". He considers this a good sign. He said the victory is also an endorsement of the policies formulated by the prime minister, especially that of vision 2020. It is also an endorsement of the sincerity of the past leadership in bringing about development to the people.

Opposition Party Allowed To Remain in Coalition

BK2909141791 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak or PBDS can continue to be a Barisan Nasional [BN] component party at the federal level even though it lost badly in the Sarawak state election. Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Ghafar Baba said this. There is no problem over this he said at his residence in Kuala Lumpur last night.

Mr. Ghafar said the PBDS presence in BN could be accepted as the party also had some followers among the Iban and Dayak communities.

In the just-concluded state election, the Sarawak BN or BN3—as it is popularly known in the state, won 49 of the 56 seats in the State Legislative Assembly. The remaining seats were won by the PBDS, which is an opposition party at the state level.

Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud said the Sarawak Barisan Nasional is still much close to the PBDS. The state BN would consider re-admitting PBDS

into its fold if it was really sincere. They should submit their applications to re-join the BN and it will be considered, he told the press conference at his residence in Petra Jaya, in Kuching today. Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib, who was sworn in last night after the BN won the election, said he would monitor every movement of the PBDS after this poll to determine its sincerity. He hoped PBDS would take seriously the advice he gave them when they left the state BN, such as to abandon narrow politicking.

Cambodia

Agreement on Election Called 'Historic Victory'

BK2909052891 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Station editorial: "All Problems Relating to a Settlement To End Vietnam's War of Aggression in Cambodia Comprehensively and Politically Have Been Resolved"]

[Text] On 20 and 21 September 1991, the Supreme National Council [SNC] held another round of meetings in New York and achieved new brilliant results. The last remaining issue, namely the election, has been resolved.

The SNC has adopted a proportional representation system using each Cambodian province as the framework. Thus, all problems relating to ending Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia politically and comprehensively in accordance with the framework document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council have been resolved.

1. There is an SNC chaired by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk representing Cambodia's sovereignty, independence, and national unity. It is a legitimate state organization and the sole source of power in Cambodia.

2. Seventy percent of all types of armed forces of all four Cambodian parties have been reduced; the remaining 30 percent of troops will be disarmed and put in cantonments under UN control.

3. The election will be organized and controlled by the United Nations using the proportional representation system in each province.

4. The SNC with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman and the military and civilian components of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] will cooperate in supervising the agreement on a comprehensive solution; and so on.

The SNC and all countries, members of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC], have decided at their meeting in New York to reconvene the PICC on 31 October 1991 to solemnly sign the above agreement on a comprehensive solution.

This is an historic victory for our entire nation and people in and outside the country and also for our

tripartite resistance forces, which have united in waging a persistent and arduous struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors for the past nearly 13 years. This victory clearly confirms that our country and nation will certainly be liberated and our people will certainly have peace, security, independence, territorial integrity, and national reconciliation.

However, our national liberation duty has not yet ended. It is necessary that we continue to unite within the great national union without any political discrimination and make further efforts to promote the good and correct implementation of the above agreement to fully liberate the country and nation from Vietnam's aggression and occupation. This is the great task in front of us.

For our people in liberated zones and in the zones under Vietnam's temporary control, please be more active in implementing the "destroy two and build four, three don'ts and three do's" task; dismantle the Vietnamese aggressors' state authorities in villages and communes; and set up local national councils to contribute to implementing well and correctly the comprehensive agreement.

Only by implementing the agreement sufficiently can our country and nation be liberated and our nation and people regain peace, security, stability, independence, and territorial integrity with genuine national reconciliation and free from Vietnam's aggression and occupation.

Sihanouk Address to UN General Assembly Session

BK2809035191 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 27 Sep 91

["Speech by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council at the 46th UN General Assembly" on 26 September 1991—read by announcer]

[Text] Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen:

The Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] was set up in the framework of the peace plan to settle the Cambodian problem politically and comprehensively; that is the plan adopted on 28 August 1990 by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], unanimously agreed by the entire UNSC through resolution 668, and welcomed by the UN General Assembly [UNGA] on 15 October 1990.

This SNC is the sole legitimate organization representing Cambodia's sovereignty and national independence. It is the sole source of power in the transitional period until the free and just elections to be organized and controlled by the United Nations. As chairman of this SNC, on behalf of a new, unified, independent, and sovereign Cambodia, and on behalf of the Cambodian people, I am honored and privileged to address the noble assembly.

Mr. Chairman: My delegation happily welcomes Your Excellency's selection to lead the proceedings of the 46th UNGA. This is a special respect for your people and country, Saudi Arabia. I am happy to express warmest congratulations. We are convinced that your experience and well-known competence will ensure this session's success. I would also like express sincere greetings to his excellency Guy De Tomako of Malta, whose diplomatic experience and astuteness successfully led the 45th UNGA.

This year, we welcome seven new countries participating in our United Nations, namely the Republic of Korea, the DPRK, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. The Cambodian SNC welcomes them to the United Nations; expresses to these countries' government and people warm greetings; and conveys to them the desire to establish fruitful friendly relations with them. Their presence in our organization is evidence of the great importance and the increasing lofty prestige of the United Nations.

Mr. Secretary General: I would like to take this fine opportunity to greet our renowned secretary general, who has incessantly carried out noble activities for many people and countries facing difficulties. Under your leadership, the United Nations was born again and the UN prestige is soaring due to the active and beneficial cooperation of all member countries with the Secretariat.

We would like to greet with admiration the UN success under Your Excellency's astute and courage leadership. While the Cambodian people are seeing the end of hardship and suffering, we, the Cambodian people, will not forget what the secretary general and his special representative have persistently done with goodwill, sincerity, generosity, and astuteness to provide all kinds of opportunities to Cambodia and the Cambodian people to have peace and freedom within the framework of national reconciliation.

We have clearly seen that having made great efforts and a lot of sacrifices for the United Nations and people the world over, Your Excellency has decided to refuse a new mandate and asked to retire. However, Cambodia is convinced that the United Nations and people in the world still greatly need Your Excellency's role and precious assistance to overcome difficulties in some places in the world. Therefore, we warmly wish that Your Excellency accepts being the head of the United Nations for a few more years. We firmly believe that many member countries will continue to trust Your Excellency in the defense of peace and progress ideals which all people want. Cambodia entirely respects your excellency's choice.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen: After a destructive war and suffering for 12 years, my country, Cambodia, and our people have been united. This immense result is due, on the one hand, to the persistent and durable assistance for

many years of justice- and freedom-loving countries, real friends of Cambodia and the Cambodian people, and on the other, to the desire of all Cambodian nationalists who have united to end the suffering, hardship, bloodshed, and destruction of Cambodia from 1970 to 1990. The new era of peace has emerged in front of us. It is certain that the path leading us to a future of national reconciliation, national solidarity, and general progress in peace is still long, painful, and full of obstacles. However, it is also full of hope and the desire to see our motherland taking its place again in the international community and to see our motherland progress and develop.

The progress achieved in Jakarta and Phatthaya in June 1991, in Beijing in July 1991, again in Phatthaya in August 1991, and recently in New York—which resolved major issues relating to the cease-fire, the cessation of foreign military aid, the dissolution of troops, the political regime, the electoral system for Cambodia, and the statement on basis human rights—is a good omen for the future. The Paris International Conference on Cambodia, which will resume its work on 21 October 1991, will enable us to end and sign the long-awaited agreement on settling the Cambodian problem comprehensively.

In the near future, the UN Transitional Authority [UNTAC] will assist the SNC in organizing Cambodia into an independent country with full territorial integrity, free, democratic, neutral, and nonaligned, and a friend of all countries which respect our independence, territorial integrity, and neutrality. The SNC and UNTAC are two inseparable key factors of the UN peace plan for Cambodia.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen: In the past three months, the Cambodian SNC has, with a consensus, adopted a number of most important decisions on the military and civilian arrangements stated in the draft agreement for solving the Cambodian problem politically and comprehensively. This was possible due to the spirit of compromise and national reconciliation of all SNC members. I would like to salute the patriotism, peace ideal, national union, and trust of 11 SNC members in selecting the SNC chairman, which enabled us to overcome a great difficulty and solve major problems at the first meeting in Phatthaya, the meeting in Beijing, the second meeting in Phatthaya, and the meeting in New York.

On behalf of Cambodia, the SNC, and the Cambodian people, I would like to express profound and sincere gratitude to countries, people, and all personalities, in particular the ASEAN countries, Australia, the UNSC five permanent members, the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference, and the UN Secretary General and his noble colleagues. Without these noble and tireless efforts, we could not have reached the current stage of the peace process.

We would like to express profound respect for the king and queen of the Kingdom of Thailand, the royal Thai Government, and the Thai people. We would like to express again our profound and eternal gratitude to them for their compassion and generosity and for the Kingdom of Thailand's (?defense) and all kinds of aid for over 350,000 Cambodian refugees living on Thai territory.

Finally, I would like to express gratitude to all countries for kindly providing accommodation to thousands of Cambodian refugees and all humanitarian and UN organizations, governmental and nongovernmental officials of a number of countries who, for the past more than a decade, have assisted and provided aid to our compatriots living in camps along the Cambodian-Thai border.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen: In the past year, major changes took place in our world. This is a good omen for future international relations. East-West detente continues to develop. Many nations achieved independence without bloodshed. Cambodia should adhere to a neutral and nonaligned policy; unite with all people who struggle against injustice and race discrimination for freedom; and unite with all countries struggling for respect of human rights, self-determination, and for everything stated in the UN Charter, the universal declaration of human rights, the five principles of peaceful coexistence, and the nonaligned principles.

Our delegation warmly supports the lofty patriotic proposal for reunification of His Excellency Marshal Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK. We are also glad to observe that contacts between the two Korean sides have increased to achieve national reconciliation which would lead to the country's reunification. We encourage these efforts and hope that, because the DPRK and Republic of Korea have become full members of our organization, the national reunification process would be sped up. Korea is one country and not two.

Our delegation supports the efforts of the Palestinian people to win back their basic rights. We hope that the international conference on the Palestinian issue will soon take place and achieve success on the basis of UNSC resolutions 242 and 338 to guarantee rights of all states in the Middle East, including Palestine and Israel, to live in peace and stability within their internationally-recognized borders.

Our delegation is encouraged by progress in solving the conflicts in Afghanistan, Lebanon, Cyprus, and Western Sahara. We also welcome progress in South Africa toward eradicating racial discrimination and the ongoing negotiations to set up a nondiscriminatory and democratic regime in South Africa. Along with working for peace for Cambodia with national reconciliation and to quickly solve the Cambodian problem comprehensively in accordance with the UN peace plan, Cambodia will actively contribute to building a good world with peace, glory, justice, democracy, and freedom.

Hun Sen Meets Foreign Officials in New York

*BK2809073891 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0510 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 28—Prime Minister Hun Sen had a working breakfast in New York on Sept. 25 with Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Badawi.

He informed the Malaysian foreign minister of the current situation in Cambodia and exchanged views on the settlement of the Cambodian problem and on the future relationship and cooperation between Cambodia and Malaysia.

For his part, the Malaysian foreign minister said that Malaysia would accredit at appropriate time its ambassador to the SNC [Supreme National Council].

The working breakfast was also attended by Cambodian Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An and deputy minister attached to the Council of Ministers Uch Kim-an.

In the afternoon Hun Sen was invited together with the other SNC members, by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen to a luncheon at the China permanent mission at the UN. Hun Sen and Qian Qichen expressed their satisfaction over the results of the SNC meeting in New York.

At the meeting, the SNC members accepted the formation of a 120-seat parliament, adopted a constitution with the two-thirds vote, and agreed to conduct the general election not later than six months after the date of registration of voters.

In the evening, Hun Sen met Chhang Song (former Cambodian minister of information during the Lon Nol regime) residing in the USA and other American politicians and investors.

He briefed them on the evolution of the Cambodian situation and answered questions relating to the economic development in Cambodia.

Hun Sen, SNC Members Attend UN Session

*BK2809071491 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0514 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 28—Prime Minister Hun Sen and others members of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia participated on Sept. 26 in the 46th UN General Assembly which was opened since Sept. 17.

Before proceeding to the hall of the General Assembly, Prime Minister Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk as well as other members of the SNC were received by Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, U.N. general secretary, in his office.

It was the first time that Hun Sen appeared at the world body after he came to power in Cambodia 12 years ago.

That day, Prince Sihanouk delivered a speech to the General Assembly, which was warmly welcomed by all participants.

In the afternoon Hun Sen received Dith Pran, producer of the well-known film "The Killing Fields" [as received] and David Hawk, director of the the Human Rights Commission on Cambodia. He was invited to a reception, organized in the evening by Prince Sihanouk together with other SNC members and representatives of the permanent missions of several countries at the U.N.

Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, U.N. secretary general, was also present at the reception.

Hun Sen was scheduled to leave New York on Sept. 27 for Paris where he will meet with French leaders.

Ruling Party To Hold Extraordinary Congress

BK3009050691 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Sep 91

[30 September "Communique on the Extraordinary Session of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party"]

[Text] An extraordinary session of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] was held from 27 to 30 September under the lofty chairmanship of Comrade Heng Samrin, secretary general of the KPRP Central Committee.

Prompted by the requirements of the situation and work, the session unanimously agreed to hold an extraordinary national congress of the party within the near future to decide the party's political program, and amend the party statute to meet the new situation.

The KPRP Central Committee joyfully welcomed the results of the meeting held in New York between the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] and the permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] during which all remaining points were settled with an aim of quickly reaching an agreement on a broad political solution to the Cambodian problem.

The KPRP Central Committee appealed to cadres, party members, combatants, and people throughout the country to strive jointly to fulfill their respective tasks in contribution to the success of the party's extraordinary national congress.

The KPRP Central Committee appealed to the compatriots living abroad to please make any possible contributions to the cause of the motherland's peace and prosperity.

Made in Phnom Penh on 30 September 1991.

Cease-Fire Violations by Pol Pot Forces Alleged

BK2709142191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Unattributed "Communique on Cease-Fire Violations by Pol Pot Faction"]

[Text] During the fourth week of September 1991, the Pol Pot faction intensified military activities using infantrymen and artillery of all types to launch successive attacks against our positions, particularly in Battambang Province.

On 23 September, the Pol Pot forces from the 450th Division launched a [words indistinct] offensive against our (?4th) Regiment positions in Ta Hen and Kaoh Chen over 20 km. west of Battambang Province. Over 100 enemy infantrymen, supported by several rounds of artillery, were used in this attack. However, thanks to our forces' lofty spirit of readiness and will to fight, we repulsed the enemy troops after fighting for over an hour.

On 22 September, about 50 to 60 Pol Pot troops from the 948th Division launched a two-hour attack on the position of our 3d Company [words indistinct] at Battambang Province. On the same day, another group of Pol Pot troops attacked our position in an area north of the Battambang provincial seat firing over 100 artillery rounds, including DK-82, DK-75, and 82-mm cannons.

All this clearly attests to the Pol Pot clique's warlike nature. Although the process toward a political solution has reached its final stage, the clique has continued to prolong the war.

Laos

Leaders Thank Romanian, Hungarian Counterparts

BK2909095391 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Recently, Kaysone Phomvihan, president of state, and Khamtai Siphandon, new prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], sent separate messages of thanks respectively to Ion Iliescu, president, and Petre Roman, prime minister of Romania; and to Arpad Goncz, president, and Josef Antall, prime minister of the Republic of Hungary; for their congratulations on their election as president and appointment as new prime minister.

In their messages, the president and the prime minister of the LPDR expressed the hope that the friendship and cooperation between Laos and Romania and between Laos and the Republic of Hungary will be further promoted and expanded with each passing day.

Foreign Minister Leads Delegation to UN Session

BK2809072491 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] A Lao Government delegation led by Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, left Vientiane by Lao Airways yesterday afternoon to attend the 46th annual UN General Assembly session in New York.

A Foreign Ministry official revealed that several issues, in particular the defense of peace and stability—new international laws and order, will be discussed during the annual UN meeting. He added that Phoun Sipaseut will address the said meeting on 14 October during which he will express Laos' attitude toward and support for the negotiations on the Cambodian problem and the admission of the DPRK and South Korea into the United Nations.

The UN General Assembly will also elect a new general secretary.

Seeing Phoun Sipaseut at the airport were Deputy Prime Minister Khamphoui Keoboulapha, deputy ministers, and a number of cadres concerned.

Foreign Minister Receives New Burmese Ambassador

BK2809105491 Vientiane KPL in English 0914 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 28 (KPL)—Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut, on September 26 received here U Maung Maung Lay, new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] to Laos.

The Lao foreign minister and the Myanmar ambassador on the occasion highly valued the developing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and hoped that these will be further strengthened.

HE [His Excellency] Maung Maung Lay presented his credentials to President Kaysone Phomvihane on September 25. He is the first appointed Myanmar ambassador with permanent residence in Vientiane after the establishment of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] in 1975.

Party-State School Delegation Leaves for PRC

BK2909102491 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] A delegation of the high-level party and state school under the party Central Committee led by Sileua Bounkham, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and head of the school's Board of Directors, left for a friendship visit to the PRC on the afternoon of 27 September at the invitation of the Board of Directors of the high-level party school of the CPC Central Committee.

During the visit, which will last 10 days, the delegation will discuss and exchange experiences with authorities of the Chinese side on the implementation of the curricula concerning the buying and selling of goods and the building of party and state cadres. The delegation will also visit some economic establishments in the PRC.

Youth Union Leader Leaves for Vietnam Visit

BK2809112291 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 28 (KPL)—Mrs. Thongvin Phomvihane, member of the People's Supreme Assembly, first secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union Central Committee, yesterday left here on a visit to Vietnam at the invitation of the Vietnamese Communist Youth Union Central Committee.

She was seen off at the Wattai Airport by secretaries of the youth union and Vietnamese ambassador to Laos, Mr. Nguyen Xuan.

Philippines**President Aquino Praises Bush Nuclear Initiative**

HK3009094191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0927 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 30 (AFP)—Philippine President Corazon Aquino praised U.S. President George Bush's pledge for cuts in the U.S. nuclear arsenal, saying his actions should be followed by other countries.

"The United States' lead on the destruction of its own nuclear warheads should be followed by other nations," Aquino said in a statement released by her executive secretary.

"Hopefully, with less nuclear arms, we would be closer to a truly peaceful world," Aquino added.

Bush proposed a reduction and eventual elimination of all U.S. and Soviet ground-based ballistic missiles with multiple warheads.

Controversy Over U.S. Withdrawal Continues**Coalition 'Split' Over Withdrawal**

HK2709034491 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 27 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[By Reporters Jose H. Macaspac III, Fidel F. Asor Jr., and Mariquit Almario]

[Text] A split looms within the anti-bases coalition in the Senate as four senators yesterday stuck to their insistence for a one-year period of withdrawal for American forces in the country.

Eight of their colleagues who voted down the treaty September 16 announced Wednesday that they were in favor of a two-year pullout.

In the House, Representative Raul Roco (LDP [Struggle of Filipino Democrats], Camarines Sur), assistant majority leader, proposed that the Americans be allowed to stay in Subic Naval Base provided they be limited to civilian work.

Labor Secretary Ruben Torres proposed a five-year withdrawal period for the Americans saying this would give enough time for at least 60 percent of the displaced base workers to find new jobs.

In a press briefing, Senator Aquilino Pimentel said he and three of his colleagues who voted with the majority in rejecting the bases accord are committed to opposing any illegal extension of American presence in the military installations.

Pimentel said three other senators opposed to longer periods of extension are Senate President Protempore Sotero Laurel and Senators Juan Ponce Enrile and Wigberto Tanada.

The four senators' stand collides with that of other anti-treaty senators who opted to give the U.S. two years to withdraw and threatens to break the delicate alliance of those in the anti-bases bloc in the Senate.

Senate President Jovito Salonga leads seven other anti-treaty senators in giving the U.S. the two-year extension.

Their stand is anchored on the provisions of the Ramos-Rusk Amendment to the bases accord which allows the U.S. a year to withdraw its forces from the bases.

Pimentel charged that there seems to be a wavering on the stand of some of his colleagues to boot out foreign presence from the country.

"There is nothing to extend. Any extension other than those provided in the old agreement is illegal," he said, adding that the officials should stop consulting with the U.S. on the withdrawal period.

Pimentel also warned that those who want to extend the bases have been resorting to "constitutional contortions and legal acrobatics" that have resulted in further dividing the people on the controversy and debased the Philippine interest.

He called on his colleagues and the Executive Department to respect the decision of the Senate and conform strictly to the constitutional process in ridding the country of a foreign power.

Already, Pimentel said he will not attend the caucus called by Salonga on Monday. During the closed door meeting, the senators are expected to formally adopt the two-year extension to the bases.

Pimentel also said that it should be the U.S. which should start asking the Philippines for an extension so that they can withdraw from the bases in an orderly manner.

But, Pimentel said, some Philippine officials who continue to act as U.S. "lackeys" are the ones who are trooping to the Americans and asking them not to withdraw quickly.

"What should be done now is for the senators to immediately close ranks and prevent the U.S. from taking advantage of the division among the people," he said.

Roco said what the Constitution prohibits is foreign military presence but not foreign civilian presence.

"The civilian presence of communications, logistical support, trans-shipment facilities and friendly transit for repairs must be defined through diplomacy so that their mutual benefits to the Philippines and the U.S. can be maximized," Roco said.

Roco, who authored RA [Republic Act] 6735 (the initiative/referendum law), was among the first administration congressmen to oppose the holding of a referendum on the Senate-rejected treaty, citing its unconstitutionality.

He also proposed the creation of a corporation, to be called Subic Bay Inc, to be 60 percent owned by Filipinos and 40 percent by foreigners.

The solon said the proposed firm shall ensure the development of Subic as a container and trans-shipment center and as an international port with shipbuilding and repair facilities.

He further suggested the tax-free importation of paper and printing equipment because, in so doing, "the Philippines can seek to be the publishing center of Asia for Asia and the world."

He added: "The thing to remember is: the Philippines cannot polarize at this time. The Filipino people must not be divided by the bases. The lessons of Central America are very clear. The Filipino people cannot be pro- or anti-America. We must only be pro-Philippines."

Speaking before the Kapihan sa [Coffeeshop] Alps Forum, Torres said a three- to five-year phase out period would be acceptable as it would give the labor department sufficient time to effect the reabsorption of most of the displaced workers.

In Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Base, Torres said, the DOLE [Department of Labor and Employment] estimated the affected workers to number 90,000.

The figure, Torres said, does not include other nondirect hire and contractual workers dependent upon the existence of the bases.

Out of the total estimated 600,000 affected Filipino workers dependent on the bases. Torres said some

350,000 or 60 percent of them are projected to be reincorporated in the work force by the end of the five-year period.

A three-year phaseout period would also be acceptable, he said, as the DOLE projected some 200,000 displaced Filipino workers would be reemployed by the time the bases finally leave the country.

However, Torres said, a five-year withdrawal proposal would be even better since the number of the workers that will be assisted by the DOLE would increase by 150,000 from the 200,000 targeted in the three-year period.

Malacanang has been urging a seven-year withdrawal period as against Senator Rene Saguisag's three-year phaseout duration without compensation.

Torres said that if the U.S. bases were pulled out by next year, the government would have difficulty reemploying the displaced workers as no preparations have been made.

"If we pull out by September 1992, we will have social problems because by next year, only 20,000 to 25,000 workers will be assisted by DOLE. If we do not create work, it will create social problems," he said.

Torres said the department has already started assisting some of the affected workers in Central Luzon, including those whose livelihood has been affected by the Mt. Pinatubo eruptions.

He said the department has been able to send some 50 Filipino aircraft workers from Clark Air Base to work in Saudi Arabia.

However, Torres said, the department is expected to have a hard time looking for new jobs for the unskilled workers as they would need to undergo training.

The DOLE, he added, would assist unskilled workers by providing retraining under the National Manpower and Youth Council.

Pullout Not To 'Affect' Investment

*HK3009110091 Quezon City MALAYA in English
28 Sep 91 p 1*

[By Bernie Chiles]

[Text] Multinational corporations (MNCs) said yesterday the U.S. pullout from military bases in the Philippines would not affect their existing investments here as well as future expansion programs.

At an open forum during the third Asian Regional Conference on Human Resources Management held at the Philippine Plaza Hotel, at least six top executives from MNCs assured their local investments will be expanded "with or without" the U.S. bases' presence in the country.

William N. Ferguson, country corporate officer of Citibank N.A., categorically said the U.S. bases "is not an internal factor" of the Philippines which can affect investments climate.

He said Citibank had been here for the past 15 years under which the Philippine economy did not enjoy an economic growth but expressed hope that in the next 15 years of their stay here the country will be able to "develop its own economic policy."

Grant F. Pace, regional managing director for Southeast Asia of Avon Pacific Inc., said the pullout of the U.S. military bases had "no impact on their (investments) planning," adding that Avon's parent company in the U.S. did not even inquire about it.

"Not at all," said Helmut Von Hagen, president and chief executive officer of Bayer Philippines Inc., when asked on the impact of the U.S. bases pullout here.

"Bayer is all over the world," he said, noting the bases issue will not affect the company's program of action.

Moreover, the three other Filipino top executives of MNCs operating here have the same opinion.

Alberto A. Manlapit, chairman of Procter and Gamble [P & G] Philippines Inc., bluntly said the U.S. bases pullout was a "non-issue."

He said the raging bases issue in the country was something that P & G's parent company in the U.S. did "not even ask."

Manlapit added that Procter and Gamble's faith in the Philippines was already proven.

He said the company invested P1 billion in the last five years and is still continuing with its expansion plans.

"Business will go on," observed Virgilo L. Pena, president and general manager of IBM Philippines Inc.

He, however, said IBM's only concern is on the impact of the pullout on economy.

Pena said that if the general economy slowed down, the industry's growth would correspondingly register slow growth.

Of the six top executives, only Filemon T. Barba, president of the INTEGRATED Microelectronics Inc., admitted that the U.S. military bases pullout would have an impact in the short-term.

"There will be a short-term dislocation," Barba said.

However, over a long-period, Pena said, the pullout of the Americans from the Philippines will "make us stronger because we have to depend on ourselves."

These business leaders were the discussants during the "Asian Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) Forum" on how human resources management can effectively respond to business challenges of the 1990s.

The forum was hosted by Atty. Ric V. Puno Jr. on the second day of the three-day conference organized by the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) for the Asia-Pacific Federation of Personnel Management.

Enrile Criticizes Government

HK2809074691 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile lashed out at the Aquino government and the pro-bases senators for their desire for a compromise formula which will extend the retention of American forces in the country. In his speech at Miriam College, Enrile stressed that President Aquino's desire is a direct violation of the Constitution. Enrile clarified that there is no more treaty to discuss, for it has already been rejected by the Senate.

At the same time, Enrile called on the citizenry to be aware and prepared for any move by the administration against the prevailing law. According to Enrile, the only effective tool which can be used against the illegal retention of the American forces is the people's and the Supreme Court's strong and adamant position in judging whether or not the moves of the Aquino government are constitutional.

Aquino Urges Compromise Offer

HK2809071191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0651 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sep 28 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino said Saturday that she wanted to see a Senate compromise offer before activating a special committee to carry out the withdrawal of U.S. bases from the Philippines.

"It is premature to activate the withdrawal committee at this point because we do not yet know the parameters which they will work with," Aquino said in a statement issued by the presidential palace.

She said they would first have to find out what compromise formula the Philippine senators would arrive at after rejecting, last week, a treaty extending the stay of U.S. military bases in this country for 10 years.

The senators are preparing a compromise offer which would allow the U.S. bases to stay for a few more years as part of a withdrawal period, but they remain divided over the specific timetable.

The lease was due to expire on September 16 but Aquino has provisionally extended the stay and is supporting moves to call a referendum which might reverse the Senate's decision.

The anti-U.S. senators however oppose the referendum, saying it is unconstitutional.

Aquino Wants Longer Withdrawal

HK3009040591 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1300 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Panel discussion on the bases treaty with President Corazon Aquino; Flores, president of the bases workers' union; Primo Galvez, executive vice president of the bases workers' union; base worker Concepcion, and hosts Frankie Batacan and Roger Lagasca on "Ask the President" program; date not given—recorded; italicized passages in English]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Batacan] Mrs. President, one of the questions from the people today is are we prepared to accept these bases in case they are returned to us? What will happen to the facilities that the Americans cannot bring home with them? Maybe our guests want to explain how we could benefit from these, and if we are prepared to accept these within one, two, or three years. Mr. Galvez?

[Galvez] If we look at... [changes thought] if Subic is turned over tomorrow or in two, three, six months, it will need big financing for its maintainance. [passage omitted] If the Americans turn this over within six months and [words indistinct] there will be pilferage like what happened at the [word indistinct] in Tarlac. When it was turned over, there were no....

[Aquino, interrupting] Yes. The turnover there was not orderly and this will not happen again. What you are saying is right; that there should be an orderly withdrawal. This was also stated by the senators. They want to see a good phasing in and phasing out because this cannot be vacated immediately and we cannot get in right away. We want to do these things orderly [as heard] not only for the Americans but for us, too, so that we can benefit from these facilities. Everybody is already agreeable to a withdrawal because there is already a rejection of the treaty. But my request to them, first of all, is to understand the situation of our brothers who are working in Subic. You cannot just close your eyes and disregard the situation of someone like you, Mr. Concepcion, and the other workers there. As Mr. Flores was saying, it is very difficult to find another job. It is not easy to find a job even if you move from one province to another. Like what Mr. Galvez said, the phasing in and phasing out should be orderly. Maybe, Mr. Flores, it is about time that you, along with Mr. Galvez and Mr. Concepcion, explain to our senators once more what your needs are and what you think and believe is best for us Filipinos. [passage omitted]

[Flores] [passage omitted] The problem of the infrastructure projects that would link Olongapo to other provinces will take time to resolve. The president's wish for a longer period should be granted because *I think the rejection is very untimely. First, even during the public hearings, because I attended every session of the public hearings, it was very difficult to understand. These senators know that there is no viable alternative at the moment. Second, untimely because we know that the*

calamity has already occurred and brought destruction throughout Central Luzon. Eighty percent of the residents of Olongapo, Zambales, Pampanga, and Bataan had problems in relation to the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo. And also Tarlac, the hometown of our president. There was also problems there. Central Luzon was the center of the calamities like the earthquake and the Visayas typhoon. These affect the country's economy. The president is in a wretched state because she has to face all of these, especially if the Subic naval facility is pulled out, it would be very untimely because *we have not yet economically recovered from all these calamities.* [passage omitted]

[Aquino] [passage omitted] It is good our senators are listening, and I told them not to aggravate the suffering of our brothers who have been affected by Mt. Pinatubo. We are not telling them to ratify it because this is already lost. The voting is over. All I am asking is to give you enough time to recover and find new jobs and maybe *during that time, Mr. Flores, you can also be looking at other countries, or even our own country for other employment for your union members.* [passage omitted] So, I think it will be good if you approach these senators. Of course, you won't be seeking a 10-year period because that is absolutely gone. You just have to explain to them how long you think is needed to alleviate your condition. As I said, if Mt. Pinatubo's eruption had not occurred it would have been alright. But the calamity happened and brought difficulty to Pampanga and other areas. People had to move to other places to find new livelihoods. This is my request to our senators, but I think you have to help me on this matter because it is you who are directly affected and they will understand it more if it comes from you. I thank you Mr. Flores, Mr. Galvez, and Mr. Concepcion. I hope that all our listeners understand your situation and will help us talk to our senators, to give our brothers enough time to find new jobs, and have an orderly phasing in and phasing out so as not to destroy the facilities there so that the Filipinos can still benefit from them.

Rally Planned To Protest Delay

HK3009020791 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Antitreaty senators, congressmen, and former cabinet members are planning to launch a multisectoral rally to pressure President Aquino to respect the Senate's decision rejecting the new bases treaty. Participants in the rally will include nongovernmental organizations comprising workers, students, professionals, and even government employees.

A senator said the rally will commence with a march to the U.S. Embassy, where the participants will issue a notice for the United States to leave the military bases in the country. The antibase senator did not disclose the exact date of the rally, but he asserted that it would be launched very soon because of the people's growing support for it. According to the senator, the rally and the

call for people power aim to show President Aquino and the United States that continued defiance of the Senate's decision is a violation of the Consitution.

'Salonga Formula' Detailed

HK3009052991 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 30 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[By reporters Jose Macaspac III, Ros Manlangit, Arthur I. Bariuad, and Mariquit Almario]

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga yesterday called on President Aquino to cut short "negotiations through press releases" with the U.S. and initiate talks on an acceptable withdrawal period of the U.S. military facilities and troops.

Salonga's call came a day before the Senate, its agenda cramped by the bases question, resumes session today with the need for an acceptable formula on the U.S. pullout topping its legislative agenda.

Involvement in the withdrawal issue, which has triggered the raising of questions as to the chamber's authority on the matter, has been dictated by what was perceived as Malacanang's failure to come out with its own withdrawal formula shortly after the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security was rejected last September 16.

Mrs. Aquino had stated that before she took any move to enforce the withdrawal of the U.S. military facilities and troops, she would wait for a Senate consensus now developing from two propositions, one from the anti-bases bloc and the other from the minority pro-bases group.

Last Thursday, New York Congressman Stephen Solarz indicated before a hearing of the U.S. House of Representatives that American officials might opt to await the results of the Philippines' presidential and senatorial elections next year or a reversal of the Senate's rejection of the treaty.

Members of the anti-bases group in the Senate, though differing on the length of the interim stay of U.S. forces, were almost unanimous that they should be out not later than three years from now, and that the U.S. phaseout should start in a few months' time. For the pro-bases bloc, a maximum of seven years was proposed.

Senate Minority Leader Juan Ponce Enrile last week accused Salonga and some of his anti-bases colleagues of "softening" in their stand against the U.S. military facilities and troops due to the coming national and local polls. He said a phaseout period of more than one year after the expiration of the current RP-U.S. Military Bases Agreement would be a violation of the Constitution.

Salonga yesterday said Mrs. Aquino was now slowly backing out of the "bankrupt" referendum idea in favor of a workable pullout compromise with the majority of senators.

But, he said, she would go along with the senators for as long as the compromise was acceptable for "policy-makers across the sea (the U.S.)."

He added that Mrs. Aquino might go back to the referendum scheme as a sort of leverage if she did not get Washington's support.

Meanwhile, Salonga the other anti-bases senator claimed a second victory in their continuing battle to finally rid the country of foreign presence.

Their initial victory was the 12-11 vote in the chamber for the rejection of the new bases accord.

"We called its (the U.S.'s) 'immediate pullout' a bluff and now we are back to the bargaining table," a jubilant Salonga told newsmen.

Salonga was referring to the latest news dispatch from Washington indicating that "the U.S. government is amenable to turning over ship repair facility equipment to the Philippines if given a friendly withdrawal period of at least four years."

This indicated, he said, the U.S. had recognized the finality of the Senate decision and attempts to override it, including the Malacanang-initiated referendum, would prove futile.

The senators remained firm that the withdrawal of the U.S. "should be orderly and expeditious," many supporting a two-year withdrawal period that Salonga had formulated.

Salonga and seven other anti-bases senators had reached an agreement to push for a two-year phaseout period, in compliance with the Ramos-Rusk Agreement.

The Salonga formula, which was firmly agreed upon by the senators during a recent caucus, stipulates:

- 1) If the U.S. government desired a quick pullout, as previously announced by its high officials, that is its own prerogative, and we will not interpose any objection;
2. If the U.S. government chose to invoke the Ramos-Rusk exchange of notes on September 16, 1986, in relation to Article 18, Section 25 of the Constitution, we are inclined to favor a one-year grace period ending September 16, 1992 in accordance with the provisions of the Manglapus-Shultz Agreement;
- 3) Should the U.S. government, as a token of goodwill and cooperation, relinquish its facilities in Subic in favor of the Philippines, under mutually beneficial terms, to enable the government or a Filipino private enterprise to own and operate them on a commercial basis, we will favor the extension of one additional year (or two years

all in all) to complete the irreversible process of relinquishment of the facilities with minimum disruption.

Of the 12 senators who rejected the U.S. treaty, Senate President Protempore Sotero Laurel and Senators Tanada, Aquilino Pimentel Jr., and Enrile had opted for a withdrawal period of not more than a year.

With the 1992 elections only eight months away, Enrile said some of his colleagues had succumbed to the pressures from Malacanang.

Mrs Aquino earlier threatened non-endorsement of the senators who would vote down the treaty. Malacanang, accepting its defeat in the Senate, had asked for a seven-year withdrawal period.

"The senators have different degrees of political will. After the votation, we are now touching on politics on the bases issue. Some of my colleagues are concerned that the pro-bases (advocates) in the country are so many and they are afraid that they may sweat it out in the 1992 elections," he said.

Enrile lamented the "surrender" of senators to Malacanang pressures, stressing they were able to resist these pressures during the pre-voting stage.

He pointed out that the anti-bases senators voted down the treaty to follow the provision of the Constitution.

However, Enrile said eight of them were now pushing for a two-year phaseout period which would violate a provision in the Charter disallowing the presence of U.S. military troops and facilities beyond 1992 after the Senate's rejection of the treaty.

Enrile said the senators were starting to worry over their political careers when the pro-bases advocates cast their votes in the coming elections.

"This is one way of softening out. This is how I read it. But they also may have been touched by the effect of the bases pullout on the Filipino workers," he said.

Last week, in the panel hearing at the U.S. House of Representatives, Stephen Solarz, Chairman of the House subcommittee on Philippine bases negotiations, expressed apprehension that the signature campaign might not be able to secure a sufficient number of supporters.

"But even if the referendum turns out not to be a viable alternative, it seems to me that there is still a very real possibility that in the forthcoming Philippines' presidential and senatorial elections, which will take place next spring, where I anticipate the base agreement will be a major issue, it is entirely possible that someone could be elected as the next president of the Philippines and then a two-thirds majority could win seats in the Senate committed to the ratification of the base agreement," Solarz said.

Briefed by ranking U.S. officials, led by U.S. Special negotiator Richard Armitage, Solarz said the rejection of the bases treaty "was a most unfortunate development."

"I think the rejection of this agreement was neither in the best interests of the Filipinos nor of ourselves," Solarz added.

But Solarz stressed that the U.S. must "respect the decision of the Philippine government, however it is arrived at, and if the base agreement was not approved, then of course we would have no alternative but to leave."

"The bases were never the be-all and the end-all of our relationship, nor would they be thought so at the present time," he said.

Salonga urged Mrs Aquino to make her decision on the bases "along these lines" and in order to ensure that the Senate would agree to an eventual treaty of withdrawal with the U.S. she should appoint at least three senators to her withdrawal panel.

The three senators Salonga recommended to the panel are Senators Leticia Shahani, Juan Ponce Enrile, and Wigberto Tanada.

Last Friday, Senator Alberto Romulo of the "pro" group raised what could be a compromise term that would give the Americans five years within which to totally withdrawn from the Philippines. He filed a resolution to push his proposal.

Two other resolutions up for discussion were those filed by Senators Jose D. Lina Jr., which called for the seven-year phaseout, and Rene Saguisag, which suggested a maximum three-year stay for U.S. military posts and forces.

Also putting pressure on the Senate legislative load is the bases conversion bill, which proposes the creation of the Base Conversion Authority.

In a dialog with students of the University of the Philippines last week, Enrile said a phaseout period of more than one year from the expiration of the current agreement would be unconstitutional.

Lina Continues Referendum Campaign

HK3009062791 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 30 Sep 91 p 3

[By Vic Vizcocho]

[Text] Senator Jose Lina yesterday announced that thousands of active supporters of the Kasama Ka Kabayan (KKK) [you are included fellow countryman] citizen's movement have vowed to pursue the signature campaign for a petition seeking a referendum on the Senate rejection of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases treaty.

In a statement, Lina said the momentum gained by the KKK to get 4.5 million signatures from 41,000 barangay

nationwide "has now reached a point where there is no turning back unless, and I stress unless, a workable humanitarian formula is put in place to prevent or minimize the disruptive effects of the base withdrawal on the economy is general and on Subic workers in particular."

"At the heart of any withdrawal formula must lie the means to look after the interests of our workers dependent on the base, and to alleviate the plight of our suffering Filipinos in beleaguered Central Luzon," he stressed.

Lina added: "True love of country must also mean love for the people and a genuine concern for their welfare."

In Olongapo City 3,000 residents braved heavy rains yesterday to hold a rally pushing for a referendum on the Senate rejection of the RP-U.S. bases treaty.

The rally was peaceful and lasted three hours, with Olongapo City Mayor Richard Gordon and other speakers taking turns condemning the anti-bases senators and calling for a referendum.

Businessmen, base workers, bar girls, students and vendors marched from outside the main gate of Subic Naval Base to the city plaza 1.5 km away.

"Let the people's voice be heard. Let us fight for the referendum." Olongapo City Vice Mayor Cynthia Cajudo told the crowd.

Some placards read: "The voice of the people, the voice of God;" "Yes kami sa treaty, yes kami sa referendum." [We say yes to the treaty, yes to the referendum] and "We need the referendum for our future.:"

Three brass bands livened up the rally with popular music, including the lambada, the crowd favorite, specially of the bar girls.

"Nandito ako para pasayahin ang rally, kaya ako nag-sasayaw sa kalye," [I'm here to liven up the rally, so I'm dancing on the street] Sheila Marie Jopson, 28 and a bar girl of the Rock Disco Bar, said.

Lina Campaign Said Illegal

HK3009091891 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 30 Sep 91 p 10

["Turn of Events" column by Francisco Tatad: "A dishonest and disgraceful proposition"]

[Text] Despite its obvious illegality and impropriety, Senator Jose Lina Jr. and company are now fully embarked on a signature-gathering campaign "to overturn" the Senate rejection of the proposed Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security between the Philippines and the United States.

What is being invoked to cover their assault on the constitutional power and prerogative of the Senate is Republic Act No. 6735 which allows the people to

intervene directly in lawmaking through a system of initiative and referendum. Verified signatures of at least ten percent of the electorate, with every district represented by at least three percent of the voters, are needed to compel the Commission on Elections to call a referendum whereby the people may oppose, enact, approve or reject, in whole or in part, any law, ordinance, or resolution passed by any legislative body.

There are then two major parts to this process: the signature-gathering campaign and the referendum. Lina and company are now engaged in the first. Their announced objective is to gather 3.5 million verifiable signatures to compel the Comelec to call a referendum which, in their view, will overturn the vote of the Senate.

This is a highly outrageous campaign.

First of all, as we have repeatedly pointed out, the people's initiative belongs to the people, not to Malacanang or to any member of Congress. An initiative such as this one should properly emanate from a people's organization of which there are quite a number, not from any office or member of government. It should not use official funds, resources or facilities.

Now, is there a single people's organization behind this campaign? Can Lina speak for any such organization while he remains a member of a political party or the Senate? As senator, is he not obliged to uphold the legitimacy and finality of the Senate's constitutional action on treaties? Is he using his own funds for his present campaign or are government funds being used for it? Or worse, is he getting funds from the U.S. or from other external sources?

On September 16, 1991, the Senate, by a voter of 12-11, killed the proposed treaty on the bases. The treaty is dead and may not be the subject of a referendum anymore. All those who show some understanding of the Constitution and the law and who may be credited with some independence of mind are agreed on this.

To this, Lina and company answer that the people will not be called upon to vote on the dead treaty per se but simply on the Senate resolution of non-concurrence which killed it. And they think that in a referendum the people will overturn it.

We do not share this calculation, but assuming for the sake of argument and only for the sake of argument that in a referendum the people reject the rejection of the treaty by the Senate, does this mean the treaty is automatically revived and ratified?

Revived probably, but not ratified. Assuming the referendum passes the test of constitutionality, the referendum vote would supersede the Senate vote. The treaty would then be revived as though it had never been rejected by the Senate. But the referendum vote would still not cancel or override the constitutional requirement that the bases treaty must be concurred in by at least two-thirds vote of the Senate and when Congress so

requires, ratified by majority of the votes cast by the people in a referendum held for that purpose.

The treaty could then be resubmitted to the Senate in the hope that the referendum vote would not influence the vote of the 12 members who had previously voted against it. But that would not eliminate the risk of the same 12 members rejecting the sordid document a second time, despite the referendum vote. For as Senate President Jovito Salonga has pointed out, the Senate need not follow the referendum held at Pilate's court where the unreasoning mob demanded the Lord's crucifixion and Christ did not have a single vote.

My fear is that even in a government-orchestrated referendum, the pro-bases, pro-treaty position could still lose. Not because it is easy for the government to lose, but because this is one referendum the administration will not find easy to rig. Traditionally, referendums are easy to rig because they do not excite as much partisan involvement as elections where people support favorite candidates. But the bases issue has so polarized the nation and heightened the militancy of the antis that in a referendum not a single precinct is likely to go unwatched. And the administration cannot be too sure that the people it would ask to man the polls are pro-treaty or pro-bases.

Additionally, the campaign period will serve to amplify and extend the Senate debate on the bases and further educate the electorate. At the end of the day there could be an infinitely bigger anti-bases, anti-treaty vote in the country than in the Senate. For our people, though generally poorly educated, remain eminently teachable, and while they can be moved to tears by some demagogue trying to exploit Mt. Pinatubo's effects on people's lives for his political purposes, they know that a longterm solution to our development problems must be found outside the bases. A vigorous, open and prolonged debate on the issue can only produce disastrous results for the government.

Lina and company are apparently aware of this. This is why they have framed their proposition in such a dishonest and disgraceful way that no fair-minded or self-respecting writer of the English language would have done it. The proposition reads:

"Considering our present difficulties due to recent calamities and the need for sufficient time for our government to prepare and implement concrete conversion plans, programs and other alternatives for the use of the bases and its (sic) facilities and to rehabilitate Central Luzon which continues to suffer in view of the effects of Mt. Pinatubo's eruption, do you reject Resolution No. 141 expressing the concern of the Senate not to concur in the ratification of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security its Supplementary Agreements between the Philippines and the United States?"

Not only is this a leading question. More than that, it is a dishonest and misleading question. It presents the wrong facts and the wrong premises in order to provoke

a desired conclusion. The Senate, as we all know, did not merely express its concern on the bases treaty; it rejected and killed the treaty. And it did so not because it had no feelings for the victims of Mt. Pinatubo but because it took a longer view of the country's real interests and needs.

The Senate rejected and killed the treaty for reasons—as Senator Juan Ponce Enrile puts it—of history, national sovereignty, political independence, national security, sound domestic and foreign policy. Additionally, it was such a technically flawed and invidiously one-sided, unfair and unequal treaty that even those who voted for it had nothing but apologies for it.

The proposition framed by Lina and company reduces the whole question of the bases into a cheap emergency employment program for the victims of Mt. Pinatubo. It shows no respect for the fact that the country is made up of infinitely more people and provinces than the victims of Mt. Pinatubo. It shows no regard at all for the increasing number of historically aware Filipinos who see the bases issue as the crux of the national question that has haunted this country since the 1890s and that must be resolved now as the centennial of the Philippine Revolution nears and the second millenium draws to a close. It shows no sensitivity whatsoever for those who might yet be persuaded to accept the bases but who will simply not eat any kind of horse manure from anybody acting for and in behalf of the U.S.

Alternative Use of Bases Studies

*HK3009094691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Text] President Aquino officially ordered five government agencies to study ways and means of utilizing the military facilities which will be left behind by the Americans. The order by President Aquino was in accordance with Memorandum Order 394 in relation to the studies being made by the Legislative Executive Bases Council regarding the alternative plan of utilizing the bases, just in case the American forces truly do leave the Philippines. The agencies of the government ordered by President Aquino to make the studies are the Department of Agrarian Reform, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of National Defense, Department of Trade and Industry, and Department of Labor and Employment. These agencies were given responsibilities regarding the use of land and facilities in the military bases

Potential Conversion Plan Outlined

*HK3009062491 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 30 Sep 91 p 8*

[By Cynthia H. Evidente]

[Text] President Aquino and the pro-U.S. bases [as published] in her Cabinet may not have given up yet on the retention of U.S. facilities at the Subic naval base,

but plans for its conversion into viable commercial facilities are nonetheless being finalized.

A study by the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC), on orders of Malacanang, indicate that there are nine potential commercial prospects for Subic.

In the document entitled/Alternative Uses/Plans for Subic Naval Base/, the DOTC outlined the possibilities in developing Subic for the following commercial uses:

- ship repair facilities;
- petroleum, oil, lubricants depot;
- international container port;
- airport at Cubi point;
- industrial estate;
- light metal and support industries;
- tourism;
- agro-forestry; and,
- fishery port.

It has been proposed that qualified private companies be tapped to develop these assets either on lease/build-operate-transfer basis or similar arrangements.

The DOTC study stated that "In the event of an immediate phaseout of U.S. naval operations in Subic and in order to minimize dislocation of some 40,000 workers as well as other adverse economic effects, the following assets can be quickly utilized to full advantage:"

- the ship repair facilities (SRF) which employs some 4,000 skilled workers with engineering, welding and machine tooling skills;
- the Subic wharves and container cranes capable of handling 20 containers per hour,
- the 2.6—million-gallon fuel depot facility; and,
- the Cubi airfield capable of handling large airliners.

Initially, the government plans to conduct an ecological assessment of the area and gather data/inventory of workers and skills, assets, facilities and other resources related to the base.

A review of previous conversion studies and proposals may also be conducted prior to finalizing an operational and workable action plan.

The next steps would be to prepare guidelines/terms of reference/prospectus/terms and conditions/marketing strategies for the development of the nine cited areas for development.

Lastly, specific projects for the Subic Base-dependent communities will also be undertaken.

These include job placement services, training assistance and business development schemes for women in the entertainment and service sector.

Also packaged is that of lining up programs for the Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs).

The aim is to hike the ICC's economic productivity and income.

Salonga Urges Panel Activation

*HK3009051091 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0400 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga today asked President Aquino to activate the Republic of the Philippines-U.S. withdrawal panel. In an interview with the Philippine Broadcasting Service news, Salonga stated the Senate will send a three-man committee to the withdrawal panel.

[Begin Salonga recording] She should not wait for whatever the Senate has yet to do. She should activate the withdrawal panel because the Senate will only talk on the facilities, especially the ship repair facility. But the two panels, the United States and the Philippines, should talk about the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. forces and pulling out of the U.S. security forces inside Subic base, so that we can replace them with Philippine security forces. The formula in the Senate.... [changes thought] They should hold a meeting and we will send three senators to that panel so that they know what is happening in the Senate. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Salonga clarified his two-year withdrawal proposal. The Senate president stressed that his proposal does not include the military and security issues.

[Begin Salonga recording] The media does not understand this yet. The U.S. troops, soldiers, and security forces and the work which can be fulfilled by the Philippines should be done immediately. [sentence as heard] Concerning the functions that can be taken over progressively, especially the ship repair facility, they can be granted a year's grace period in accordance with the Ramos-Rusk agreement. And if they still need another year for the Filipinos to operate this on a commercial basis, I am agreeable to giving one more year, but only on the facility and not on the pullout of soldiers and U.S. security forces. [end recording]

Congressional Agenda Items Viewed

*HK3009051791 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0400 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Text] Congress resumes sessions today after a two-week recess with the withdrawal of U.S. forces as its primary agenda item. The Senate is expected to discuss Senator Rene Saguisag's suggestion for a three-year U.S. withdrawal without pay; Senator Jose Lina Jr.'s proposal for a seven-year phase-out; Senator Romulo's five-year phase-out; Senate Minority Leader Juan Ponce Enrile's suggestion for a withdrawal period of no more than six months; and Senator Tanada's suggestion of three-months.

Continued U.S. Friendship Urged

*HK3009080391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 30 Sep 91 p 6*

[Editorial: "Republic of the Philippines-U.S. Ties Remain"]

[Text] In a televised meeting in New York last Thursday with Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker III said Philippine-American friendship, built on shared experience, remains firm despite the rejection of the RP[Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security by the Philippine Senate.

The meaning of the secretary of states [word as published] statement was amply delineated by the labor attache of the United States Embassy, Peter Dodd, in a speech last Friday before the 3rd Regional Conference on Human Resources Management in Manila. He stated that, whatever the outcome may be of the effort of the Aquino administration to secure ratification of the new bilateral accord, the U.S. government will cooperate in building anew a firm basis for mutual cooperation.

Mr. Dodd reaffirmed the view of his government that the treaty "provides a framework for cooperation between our two countries that can afford opportunities and economic benefits for both countries for many years to come."

It is useful to bear in mind that the departure of U.S. forces and facilities from Subic Naval Base would not do away with the community of strategic and economic interests between the Philippines and the United States. The two countries remain bound by the Treaty of Mutual Defense, and the U.S. Military Assistance Act still is in full force and effect. To cap it all, the United States remains the biggest and most profitable market for Philippine exports and, cumulatively, the leading source of investments, capital aid, loans, and credit.

Historical experience and pragmatic considerations argue persuasively for a policy of continued friendship and cooperation with the United States to which there is no visible and tenable alternative.

Salonga Warns About U.S. Election 'Meddling'

*HK3009052691 Quezon CITY MALAYA in English
30 Sep 91 pp 1, 2*

[By Cris Larano]

[Text] Anti-bases senators recently urged the people to resist possible meddling by the United States in next year's polls in an attempt to insure the victory of candidates supportive of the continued stay of the U.S. base.s

Senate President Jovito Salonga (L.P.) [Liberal Party], Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile (NP) [Nationalist Party] and Sen. Aquilino Pimentel (PDP-Laban)

[Filipino Democratic Party] said the U.S. wants to install a new administration with which it can renegotiate a new bases treaty.

Salonga said he is urging the Aquino administration to convene a panel to oversee the U.S. withdrawal "precisely to avert this kind of intervention in the election."

"The convening of the panel will make the withdrawal process irreversible," he said.

Enrile said American intervention in the elections is nothing new. "No less than (former) President (Diosdado) Macapagal has reminded us that this has happened before," he said.

"We may be sure that foreign elements, with the collusion of the administration, will strive to elect the correct President and the correct Senate that will help along a new bases treaty," he added.

Pimentel said the people should unite because "the Americans will want us divided."

"They will take advantage of the fissures and cracks in our society to perpetuate their presence here," he said.

Pimentel urged the people to be vigilant against a possible rigging of the election.

Payment To Stop if Power Plant Misdeeds Proven

HK2809025591 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] President Aquino has assured that debt payments on the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant will be stopped the moment it is proven that foreign banks connived to have the plant's tender approved. This was President Aquino's reaction to Senate Majority Floor Leader Teofisto Guingona's revelation that several foreign banks were involved in this irregular transaction during the Marcos regime.

However, Mrs. Aquino clarified that evidence must first be submitted before the government can take appropriate action. At the same time, the chief executive dismissed accusations that the government is trying to protect one of the creditor banks who provided funding for the construction of the \$2.1 billion nuclear power plant on Bataan. According to Mrs. Aquino, the banks who provided funding for the said project were not the ones who committed the anomalies, rather it was the Marcos regime and Westinghouse.

Funds Sought for Air Force Radar in Palawan

HK3009050191 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 30 Sep 91 p 8

[Text] A congressman yesterday asked the Department of Budget and Management to immediately act on a request by the Air Force to set up a radar in Palawan

amid reports that countries involved in the dispute over the Spratly Islands are violating the airspace in Southern Philippines.

"This is not a joke. There were reports that our airspace is being violated by foreign countries and we have no radar in the South to monitor them," Rep. Vicente Rivera (LP [Liberal Party], Bulacan) said.

"We are being taken for granted by neighboring countries," he added.

Rivera, a member of the House appropriations committee, did not elaborate on the reports but said the southern airspace of the country can be accessed by Malaysia, China and Taiwan which, along with the Philippines, have claims on the Spratlys.

Air Force Chief Brig. Gen. Loven Abadia told the appropriations committee they have requested the DBM last July for P [Philippine Peso] 23 million to buy the radar and another P86 million to transfer the 5th Fighter Wing from Pampanga to Palawan.

PAF [Philippine Air Force] planning chief Col. Felix Duenas Jr. said the Air Force needs to set up the radar and transfer the fighter wing to safeguard the country against possible strife related to the Spratlys.

Duenas said the radar will be set up in Mount Rio Tuba in Palawan, to detect aircraft entering the country's air defense zone.

Japanese To Upgrade Mills in Exchange for Sugar

HK2709035291 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 27 Sep 91 pp 1, 8

[By Ma. Antonette Z. Cruz]

[Text] More Japanese firms are offering to upgrade Philippine sugar milling facilities in exchange for Philippine sugar, Sugar Regulatory Administrator (SRA) head Arsenio Yulo, Jr. disclosed yesterday.

Following the offer of Japanese Sogo Shosha Marubeni Corp. to rehabilitate the country's sugar facilities in exchange for Philippine sugar shipments, several other Japanese trading firms have approached the SRA for similar deals.

Mr Yulo said three other Japanese firms have expressed interest in the scheme. One of these, he said, is Mitsui & Co, Ltd. He did not identify the other trading houses. Presently, Japan imports about one million metric tons of sugar annually from Thailand.

Before such deals would push through, the SRA administrator said it would first be necessary to establish the size of the Japan firm's import requirements. These have to be determined as yet before the swap agreement could be initiated.

Other swap modes the SRA has stumbled upon include the exchange of Japanese tractors for Philippine sugar

stocks. Mr Yulo seemed keen on the idea, noting that most tractors used by sugar producers are outmoded.

"The CARL (Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law) was a big disincentive to sugar planters," he said, explaining the dwindling interest of most sugar planters to invest on their lands. "Most sugar planters live a hand-to-mouth existence," he said, correcting what he said was widespread perception that sugar planters own vast tracts of land. Presently, said Mr Yulo, only 15% of the country's sugar planters own lands bigger than 20 hectares; the rest have farms no bigger than 10 hectares.

Mr Yulo said the Philippines should vigorously search for alternative sugar markets, given the uncertainties surrounding the U.S. market. "We can sacrifice selling sugar (meant for the U.S. market) to the world market to fetch hard-earned currency," he said.

SRA officials said they would be amenable to a price of \$0.16 per pound from the Japanese.

Military Rebels' Surrender Deadline Threatened

HK2809064691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0628 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sep 28 (AFP)—Philippine President Corazon Aquino warned here Saturday that she may call a deadline for fugitive military coup plotters to turn themselves in if continuing talks fail to yield results.

In a statement issued by the presidential palace, Aquino said that she was leaving it to military chief, General Lisandro Abadia, to set any deadline in his talks with the military renegades.

But she said that, "if at a certain point, we note that there is still no substance from the talks, I will call in Gen. Abadia for an overall review of the situation including the setting of a deadline."

The government has also warned that the military coup plotters will not be granted immediate amnesty if they turn themselves in and will have to face the courts for their crimes.

The military rebels have been holding talks with Abadia and one of their key leaders, former Army Colonel Gregorio Honasan, had a clandestine meeting on Monday with Ramon Mitra, the speaker of the House of Representatives a month after a similar meeting with Abadia.

The meetings, and Abadia's controversial move of releasing 68 jailed putschists to the custody of their military superiors, led to widespread speculation here that Aquino, who has survived seven military rebellions, would grant amnesty to all participants of past coup attempts.

Abadia has been trying to open talks with the fugitive coup plotters for the past several weeks to try to talk them into returning to the fold.

Some observers, including former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, have warned that the coup plotters may be using the talks purely for political purposes and are not sincere in wanting to turn themselves in.

Rebel Leaders To Meet Politicians About Amnesty

HK3009073091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 Sep 91 p 9

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] Fugitive leaders of the outlawed Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People (RAM-SFP) have agreed to meet with other presidential aspirants who have openly declared their support for the granting of general amnesty for rebel military officers.

Military sources said that RAM-SEP leaders, particularly former Army lieutenant colonel Gregorio Honasan and former Navy commodore Domingo Calajate, decided to "seek out presidential candidates because they held little hope of obtaining amnesty under the present administration."

The recent meeting of ranking RAM-SEP officials took place in a subdivision in Quezon City. Among those were ex-Navy captain Felix Turingan, ex-Air Force lieutenant colonel Red Kapunan, and ex-Air Force brigadier general Jose Zumel.

As this developed, RAM-SFP leaders also denounced Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. for allegedly violating an agreement to make their meeting last week "secret and highly confidential."

The rebel military officers said "political drumbeating" will only endanger reconciliation efforts between the government and RAM-SFP officials.

Military sources said that the meeting of Mitra and the RAM-SFP leaders was facilitated by former Navy commodore Serapio Taccad, who is currently the sergeant-at-arms at the House of Representatives.

Last Friday [27 September], President Aquino ordered Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, to continue his talks with the ultra-rightist groups as she called for "substantive results" in the government-initiated peace talks.

After Mitra had announced his meeting with Honasan and Calajate, Abadia said that he would only assume a "supportive" role since the speaker had already entered the picture.

Mitra's Peace Talks With Honasan Appraised

HK3009093591 Quezon City MALAYA in English 29 Sep 91 p 6

[Editorial: "Lions' Den"]

[Text] Speaker Ramon V. Mitra has certainly kicked up quite a storm with the clandestine but highly-publicized four-hour meeting he held recently with Gringo Honasan and the latter's top aides.

He has left a number of red faces and bruised egos behind, notably those of Defense Secretary Renato de Villa, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff Gen. Lisandro Abadia and, last but hardly least, ex-Secretary Fidel Ramos. Their sensitivities have not been assuaged any by the fact that the commander-in-chief, President Aquino, has formally designated him as her personal emissary in the effort to bring the rebel soldiers "back to the folds of the law."

What all this means is that Mitra has now entered the lions' den. He is on his own. Out of the corners of his eyes, he has to watch out for the slightest movement or faintest sound suggesting an imminent attack. All his sense will have to be on full alert.

To be sure, there are many elements in the armed forces, not to speak of the country at large, who will be rooting for him in his effort to restore unity and harmony in the military. The fractiousness in its ranks has already cost us dearly—all those coups, the toll in lives and injuries, the social and economic consequences. And the AFP can never be a serious factor in subduing internal upheavals or protecting the country from external threats if it remains a house divided.

But there are also factions that won't help cure the AFP's malaise unless they get the credit and it is done on their terms. Thus the obstacles—real, imagined and/or fabricated—already being thrown along Mitra's path. Former Secretary Ramos has warned against giving a blanket amnesty to the rebels, and his clone, Secretary De Villa, promptly echoed this warning.

It seems a fact, however, that Mitra has never said anything about promising amnesty to Honasan and company. It would be incredible, of course, if the subject did not come up in one way or another during their prolonged conversations, but this is a far cry from saying that any commitments were made. Ramos, who is competing with Mitra for the LDP's [Struggle of the Filipino Democrat] presidential nomination, may safely be described as the man least eager to see the Speaker's exercise in mediation succeed. This may be putting it mildly.

The next few weeks, then, will test all of Mitra's skills at keeping the lions at bay. He'd be a fool not to know they will lunge at him at every opportunity. But he's an old pro—his huge advantage over the bumbling, bewildered Fidel Ramos—and should be able to take care of himself.

Rodriguez Named New Tagalog Regional Director

*HK3009113991 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[By Benjie de Galicia]

[Text] Government officials from the different provinces of Region Four witnessed this morning the turn-over ceremonies at Camp De Vicente Lim [placename as heard], Canlubang, Laguna, where Brigadier General Umberto Rodriguez replaced retiring Chief Superintendent Evaristo Carino as regional director of the Southern Tagalog region. At the turnover ceremonies, Carino said that despite his hailing from Northern Luzon and a real Ilocano, all his time has been dedicated to serving the Southern Tagalog region as chief of the Philippine National Police [PNP]. Meanwhile, the new regional director, Chief Superintendent Umberto Rodriguez, said he will try to match, even if not totally, the service given by Carino at his post.

Before Rodriguez was appointed regional director, PNP Chief Director Cesar Nazareno said Rodriguez came from Mindoro where he was able to closely monitor the movements of the New People's Army. Here is the statement made by PNP chief Cesar Nazareno during our ambush interview with him:

[Begin Nazareno recording] Now, here in the Tagalog region, we have placed General Umberto Rodriguez as the new general director in line with General Carino's retirement. He is not new to the area, for before he assumed this position, he was assigned to Mindoro and thus is familiar with the movements of those who are hindering peace and order here in Southern Luzon. [end recording]

'Chief' Communist Guerrilla Propagandist Captured

*HK2909073691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0710 GMT
29 Sep 91*

[Text] Manila, Sept 29 (AFP) - Military and police intelligence agents have captured the chief propagandist of the insurgent Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), the Army said Sunday.

Maria Victoria Segui, who carried a 700,000 peso (25,926 dollar) price on her head, was arrested in a southern Manila suburb late Saturday and a loaded pistol was seized from her, an Army statement said.

Segui, a former student activist who joined the communist underground in 1971, headed the national propaganda commission of the CPP and its armed wing the New People's Army (NPA) since last year, it added.

She is married to another ranking communist guerrilla leader, Warren Calizo, who was arrested earlier this year, the Army said.

The CPP-NPA, which has been fighting a 22-year-old guerrilla war, has suffered a string of arrests to mid- and top-level leaders over the past three months, including Romulo Kintanar, the alleged head of the NPA.

The insurgents' political wing, the National Democratic Front, declared a unilateral ceasefire and offered direct

peace talks to President Corazon Aquino last week after the Philippine Senate rejected a new base treaty with the United States.

But the government spurned national-level talks with the insurgents and NPA ambushes resumed. One such attack left 22 soldiers dead in the northern Philippines on Thursday.

Further on Maria Victoria Segui

HK3009014591 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] A high-ranking woman leader of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] who is said to be responsible for the communist rebels' propaganda was arrested by the military in Las Pinas, Metro Manila, three days ago.

Army Chief, Major General Arturo Enrile identified the rebel leader as Maria Victoria Segui, alleged secretary of the CPP National Propaganda Commission and wife of Warren Calizo, a top official of the National Democratic Front. Segui, alias Comrade Limay, carries a prize of P [Philippine pesos] 700,000 on her head. She was arrested on Thursday night [26 September] in Pamplona, Las Pinas, Metro Manila. Confiscated from Sigue were a .22 caliber (Astra) pistol with seven bullets and subversive documents. Comrade Limay is said to have been active in the Panay Island countryside, particularly in strengthening the movement there. She was also active in the sectoral organization in Metro Iloilo until she became a member of the executive committee of the Visayas command. It was learned that Sigue was a former student at the University of the Philippines, and a former vice president of the League of Filipino Students before she assumed an important position in the CPP-New People's Army, after which she was assigned to the National Propaganda Commission.

Police Arrest 'Top' Muslim Rebel Commander

HK3009055391 Quezon City MALAYA in English 30 Sep 91 p 7

[By Noel Bartolome]

[Text] A top commander of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] and alleged leader of a notorious kidnap-for-ransom gang was nabbed Saturday in an entrapment in Lanao del Norte, the Philippine National Police [PNP] reported yesterday.

Chief Superintendent Roger Deinla, PNP Regional Command 12 director, identified the arrested rebel as Mercado Tarantano Saumay, alias Commander Mercado, alleged commander of MNLF's Zone I and head of the MNLF's Tundra Force operating in Western Mindanao.

Saumay reportedly has 20 standing warrants for multiple murder, rape, kidnapping, extortion, homicide, and cattle-rustling. In a briefing attended by PNP Director

General Cesar Nazareno, Deinla said Saumay was cornered by police agents under Superintendent Vicente Dumpit, Lanao Norte PNP provincial director, after trying to extort P [Philippine peso] 25,000 from a Chinese businessman in Barangay Somioreng, Tangkal town.

Saumay was immediately subdued but his armed guards eluded arrest after a brief shootout. Nobody was reported injured.

Police said the Tundra Force, a special partisan unit, was created by top MNLF leaders to raise funds for local guerrilla forces.

It reportedly operates as a semi-independent unit to clear the MNLF of involvement in kidnap-for-ransom operations, cattle-rustling, and other illegal activities.

Saumay allegedly reports directly to Commander Dante Ditagan Batinggulo, chairman of the MNLF Lanao Norte Revolutionary Committee.

In a related development, Chief Superintendent Rogelio Martin, PNP director for the Muslim Autonomous Region, also reported that seven of the 15 MNLF members responsible for the killing on May 8 of 19 PNP operatives were killed in an encounter last week in Barangay Dungguan, Lutayan, Sultan Kudarat.

Martin said seven high powered firearms, including a light machinegun, were recovered from the suspects.

Manila To Supply Power Corporation With Funds

HK3009123791 Quezon City MALAYA in English 28 Sep 91 p 9

[By Dinna Chan]

[Text] The national government will infuse P [Philippine peso] 1 billion a year from 1992 to 1995 to improve the operational efficiency of the debt-ridden National Power Corp (NPC), Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao said yesterday.

The additional capital infusion excludes the P1.9 billion advances paid and the P58.5 million cash equity infused by the national government on NPC.

In a press conference, Estanislao explained that the government was compelled to rescue the state-owned power firm to improve the country's power supply situation.

"The government will have to infuse at least P1 billion within the next few years, but in exchange, the people can be assured of less brownouts," he said.

The yearly capital infusion was among the steps included in the NPC reform package earlier approved by the International Monetary Fund [IMF] and World Bank [WB] mission which arrived in the country last week.

The reform package which was drafted by the Finance officials and members of the mission was aimed at improving the services of NPC and at improving its financial status. NPC expects to incur P11.9 billion deficit this year.

The package is expected to improve the capability of NPC to settle its foreign debt which has reached almost \$2 billion.

To improve the company's financial status, Estanislao said that the mission has proposed the conversion into equity of the P1.9 billion advances with a three-year moratorium on the principal.

The mission urged the NPC to review its rate structure to ensure a six percent rate of return on the rate base in 1992.

Earlier, IMF and WB officials wanted an eight percent rate of return on the rate base beginning this year. But Estanislao objected the idea due to violent opposition by consumers on power rate hikes. President Corazon Aquino also assured that there will be no power rates increases until December to pacify restive consumers.

Estanislao 'Confident' of Finding Solutions

*HK3009091791 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY
in English 30 Sep 91 p 8*

[By Rexie M. Reyes]

[Text] With the country's bill payments expected to rise in 1992, the government needs at least P [Philippine Peso] 36 billion to keep its fiscal house in order next year, Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao said over the weekend.

"If I want the budget to be virtually balanced, my assignment is (to produce) P39 billion," Estanislao said.

The finance chief said he will be discussing with President Aquino a three-pronged program which will raise the needed P36 billion.

The higher bills were due to the rehabilitation of the cash-strapped National Power Corporation, assumption of the foreign debt of the Philippine Airlines by the national government, and the damage wrought by the Mt Pinatubo eruptions. These factors added P9.7 billion to the total expenditures in 1991 and P2.5 billion in 1992.

The "Untimely" reduction of government earnings due to the phasedown of the import levy from 9 percent to 5 percent and the oil price rollback further reduced the government's cash base by P 2.4 billion in 1991 and P6.6 billion in 1992, Estanislao said.

Thus, from a P252.5-billion revenue projection in 1992, government earnings are expected to slide to P245.9 billion, P39-billion short of the P285.7-billion projected expenditures.

The 1991 budget will remain on track, however, with the reduction of some P7 billion in expenditures, Estanislao said. The cut does not mean a stoppage of the projects of the Department of Public Works and Highways, he explained, but a rephrasing of the expenses for these projects.

The rejection of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases treaty on friendship, cooperation and security also did not help the government because the expected earnings of some \$360 million from the treaty, or about P9 billion of the projected shortfall, were not realized.

"Instead of being one-third done of the P39 billion assignment, I am still a 100 percent (short) without any immediate solution," the finance chief said.

Also, as a result of the rejection of the treaty, sales of the Asset Privatization Trust went down, Estanislao said. "A number of issues such as those of the National Steel Corporation, Philippine National Bank, and Union Bank of the Philippines privatization will have to be delayed as a direct consequence of the market's reaction to what happened to the bases treaty," he said.

"I don't agree with people (however) who say that there is no life after the bases, we will survive," Estanislao said, "but I also disagree that life would be as usual without the bases, life is going to be tougher without the bases."

"I am still confident that we can find the solutions to our problems," he added.

Of the programmed P47.8-billion deficit of the combined public sector, the national government will account for P26.2 billion; government-owned and -controlled corporations [GOCC], P12.1 billion; and the Central Bank [CB], P32 billion. Other government agencies are expected to post a P22.9-billion surplus in 1991 to keep the total deficit at P47.8 billion.

In 1992, however, the total consolidated public sector deficit is estimated at P35.7 billion, with national government accounting for P3.8 billion of the deficit; GOCCs, P14.8 billion; and the CB, P32 billion. Other government agencies are expected to yield a P15-billion surplus.

Editorial Urges Updated Foreign Economic Policy

*HK3009100091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 29 Sep 91 p 6*

[Editorial: "Foreign Economic Policy"]

[Text] It is becoming increasingly clear that the Philippines has to update its foreign economic policy to keep it in perfect rhythm with its political foreign economic policy and to keep it attuned to current realities in the international community.

The Philippines has to strive to enhance its economic relations with its two leading trading partners, the

United States and Japan. This should not preclude, however, the development of reciprocal economic relations with the colleagues of the United States in the Big Seven, namely, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, and Italy.

The Third World, Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and our neighbors in the Asia-Pacific region all offer opportunities for reciprocal economic relations, which we have not tapped.

The primary consideration in the drive of the Philippines for trade and other relations with countries around the world is that they have things we need and pay for and that we have, in turn, things they need and can pay for. This is the basic element of quid pro quo that underlies international economic cooperation.

The United Nations has instrumentalities like UNCTAD [United Nations Conference on Trade and Development] that we should endeavor to use to the fullest extent in a drive to place the Philippines on the economic map of the world.

To achieve all these goals, however, we have to put our economic house in order. If the present dishevelled state of our domestic economic affairs proves impervious to change and reform, foreign economic policy, however loftily conceived and beautifully designed, is doomed to remain an idle dream on paper.

As in diplomacy, Philippine trade and economic relations with foreign countries cannot rise above the level of affairs at home.

Laos, Vietnam To 'Outpace' Philippine Economy

HK3009085491 Quezon City MALAYA in English
30 Sep 91 p 13

[By Bernie Cahilles]

[Text] A senior economist of the Asian Development Bank has warned that Laos and Vietnam will outpace the economic development of the Philippines if the government fails to move faster.

In a speech before the recent Third Asian regional conference on human resources management held at Philippine Plaza Hotel, Ernesto M. Pernia said Vietnam and Laos were fast emerging as major market economies.

Both Laos and Vietnam, he said, have continued implementing reforms to promote economic growth and to stimulate investments in their country.

Laos' economy expanded 9.1 percent last year and Vietnam 2.4 percent because the economy was faced with severe adjustment problems, including inflation and lack of capital.

Thailand continued to be the fastest growing economy in developing Asia, registering a double-digit growth for the third consecutive year, he said.

The investment boom continued as a result of the implementation of a large number of foreign investment projects and increase in construction and public infrastructure.

In contrast, Pernia said, the Philippines suffered severely in 1990 from the Gulf crisis, perceived political uncertainty, natural calamities and power shortages, which reduced the country's growth rate to 2.5 percent, less than half of the growth rate achieved in 1989.

Moreover, the Philippines' exports slowed down substantially while imports continued to grow rapidly, widening the current account deficit.

He added that the deterioration of the current account, combined with the worsening government deficit, heightened the vulnerability of the Philippine economy to external shocks and intensified the need for the long-delayed economic restructuring.

The damage wrought by the Mt. Pinatubo eruption will lead further to the shrinking of the economy in 1991.

Thailand

Column on 'Confidence' of Bush's Arms Proposal

BK3009103191 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai
30 Sep 91 p 2

[Column under the rubric "World Window" by Sunthon Wathi: "Bush's Nuclear Disarmament"]

[Excerpts] President George Bush recently made the most important announcement on nuclear disarmament since the beginning of the cold war confrontation between the two camps of the world superpowers five decades ago. [passage omitted]

The announcement made by Bush marks an important compromise toward the Soviet Union following several similar announcements by Mikhail Gorbachev on unilateral disarmament.

This time, the White House leader has assumed the offensive after having played the defensive role most of the time. The next step for him is to wait and see how Moscow will respond to the proposal and what kind of action it will take.

Arms experts believe that there are still a lot of problems regarding disarmament between the United States and the Soviet Union. Both sides still possess large quantities of highly destructive weapons that can destroy the whole world.

But Bush is bravely moving ahead on this issue because he has confidence that the competition in arms production begun during the cold war era has come to an end, and the failed coup attempt in Moscow has led to the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union, thus posing no more threats.

The world today is entering an era of peace and disarmament in which various resources can be used for the well-being of the world population. Whoever stubbornly insists on further competition in arms production will only become an "out-of-date" person.

Suchinda on UN Cambodia Force, Pol Pot

*BK2809141491 Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai
28 Sep 91 p 3*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Asked by newsmen at Sirinthon Camp in Pattani Province on 27 September whether Thailand will send troops to join the UN peace-keeping force to be stationed in Cambodia during the transition period, Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun said that would depend on a request from the United Nations. He added that Thailand played a major role in the restoration of peace in Cambodia and its soldiers' considerable knowledge of landmines in the border area gives them a great advantage compared with soldiers from other countries.

Asked whether he ever discussed with Cambodian leaders the issue of some of them being unacceptable to foreign countries, Gen. Suchinda said one should look at this issue with fairness. He could understand from his conversations with some Cambodian leaders their belief that Pol Pot must never be allowed to return to power. However, in his conversation with some Western leaders, they held that Saddam Husayn was worse than Pol Pot as far as damage caused to the world. They said that the oil fields are still burning, resulting in a continuing worldwide economic recession. They could not answer why the United States did not eliminate Saddam Husayn after defeating Iraq. Suchinda said that at his meetings with Pol Pot he never discussed Pol Pot's future in Cambodia because he wanted to promote national reconciliation there.

Foreign Minister Asa Departs for UN Meeting

*BK2809134091 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and his delegation left for the United States today to attend the UN General Assembly in New York. They will return on 11 October. The foreign minister said the 46th UN General Assembly is especially important in light of significant political changes in Europe and the UN emphasis on safeguarding peace and settling regional problems. The assembly will also discuss ways to improve the United Nation's and its agencies' budget management and operational efficiency. The foreign minister will deliver a speech to the assembly on 3 October on Thailand's policy concerning international political, economic, and social relations. He will also call on Prince Norodom Sihanouk and hold talks with foreign ministers of several countries on the world situation and on Thailand's interests as affected by those countries.

Japanese Emperor, Empress Continue Visit

Host Banquet 27 Sep

*BK2809031891 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 0000 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] At 2000 yesterday evening, the emperor and empress of Japan hosted a banquet in honor of their Majesties the king and queen of Thailand at the Sala Sahathai Samakhom Hall in the Grand Palace. The banquet proceeded exceptionally well amidst an atmosphere of friendship.

On the occasion, the visiting Japanese Emperor delivered a speech as follows:

"I would like to propose a toast for the health and happiness of their majesties and for the prosperity of the Kingdom of Thailand and the welfare of Thai people."

His majesty then made a responding speech:

"Before proposing a toast, I would like to thank their majesties the emperor and the empress of Japan for coming to see us and to have been very gracious to look at our country. This visit is very gratifying and is a great step for our country."

On the third day of the visit to Thailand by Japanese emperor and empress today, the imperial couple are scheduled to leave the Boromaphiman Hall in the Grand Palace at 0930.

The Japanese royal couple will travel to the permanent pavillion of the Bangkok Metropolis where Bangkok Governor Major Chamlong Simuang and his wife will welcome them and present them with souvenir gifts and garlands.

After that, the Japanese royalty will proceed to the Royal Chitlada Palace to have an audience with their majesties the king and queen to bid them a farewell before leaving for a northern tour of the provinces of Phitsanulok, Sukhothai, and Chiang Mai.

During the tour of the northern Thailand, the royal guests will be accompanied by his royal highness Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon and her royal highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, as personal representatives of their majesties.

Tour Sukhothai Ruins

*OW2809130191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1134 GMT
28 Sep 91*

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Sukhothai, Thailand, Sept. 28 KYODO—Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko got a

glimpse of Thailand's ancient past Saturday as they visited the ruins of the Sukhothai Kingdom dating back to the 13th century.

The imperial couple was on the third day of a three-nation Southeast Asian tour, the first visit to the region by a Japanese monarch, which will also take them to Malaysia and Indonesia.

Escorted by Crown Prince Wachiralongkon and Princess Sirinthon, the couple toured the Sukhothai historical park, about 450 kilometers north of Bangkok, in muggy weather.

The spacious park was completed in 1988 in a 10-year, United Nations-financed project to preserve and show the remains of Thailand's first known kingdom that flourished for more than a century from 1238, according to the Thai Education Ministry.

The Sukhothai ruins feature huge Buddhist monuments such as nine-meter-tall standing Buddha statues and stupas made in brick and stone, with the relics of Brahman shrines indicating the influence of previous Khmer rulers.

The emperor was casually clad, with a gray shirt without a tie and dark gray pants, while the empress wore a black blouse and a white skirt, with a combination of purple and green sashes around her waist.

Praise Thailand's Achievements

*BK2809013591 Bangkok THE NATION in English
28 Sep 91 p A1*

[Text] Emperor Akihito, visiting Thailand on the first leg of his peace mission, said yesterday he was impressed by the "great achievements" of the Thai people, and repeated assurances that Japan would not return to military aggression.

He and Empress Michiko granted an audience to Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and senior Thai officials at the Boromaphiman Hall in the Grand Palace in the morning, during which the Japanese imperial couple thanked the Thai government for its hospitality.

"The emperor said he was very impressed by the great achievement of the people of Thailand and the country, especially when compared to what he observed when he came here 26 years ago representing his late father," said Hideo Kagami, spokesman for the emperor's delegation.

"The emperor expressed gratitude to the Thai Royal Family and the Thai government for the realization of the visit," the spokesman told reporters.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Prime Minister Pao Sarasin, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and Thai Ambassador to Japan Chet Sucharitkun.

Anan told the imperial couple that their visit "brings three messages—peace, understanding and goodwill".

The empress replied: "Japan cherishes peace greatly. It has learned from experiences of war. Japan is strongly for peace and stability in this region."

The imperial couple said the three messages would also be brought to other countries in this region.

Emperor Akihito visited the Victory Monument earlier in the morning. He laid a wreath in memory of Thailand's war dead and observed a minute's silence in front of the monument.

The emperor and the empress arrived in Thailand on Thursday, their first stop on an 11-day tour that includes visits to Malaysia and Indonesia. Akihito is the first Japanese monarch to visit Southeast Asia, where memories of Japan's brutal military rule up to 1945 are still vivid.

In talks with Prime Minister Anan, Akihito referred to a pledge he made on Thursday that a peace-loving Japan would "never repeat the horrors of that most unfortunate war", the spokesman said.

In the meeting, Anan urged Japan to step up economic cooperation and direct investment in Thailand and to play a leading role in the region.

Cultural differences and mutual dependence were discussed during the talks between the emperor and Anan, Kagami said. "They referred to very close relations in various fields including political, economic and cultural aspects," the spokesman said.

Arrive in Chiang Mai 28 Sep

*BK2909024891 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in English 0000 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, accompanied by his royal highness Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon and her royal highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, arrived in the northern province of Chiang Mai last night.

Apart from touring the city, the visiting Japanese royalty will this morning visit Huai Hong Khelai Royal Development Project at Doi Saket District.

Later in the afternoon, they will observe local arts and handicrafts displayed at the Chiang Mai Orchid Hotel.

The governor of Chiang Mai will host a Khan Tok [typical northern style] dinner in honor of the Japanese emperor and empress tonight with cultural performances at the same hotel.

The Japanese emperor and empress will leave for Kuala Lumpur from the Chiang Mai Airport at 9:40 AM on 30 September.

Leave for Malaysia 30 Sep

*BK3009075191 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 0530 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Report by Public Relations Department Correspondent Kanyarat Antrakun from Chiang Mai on 30 September—recorded]

[Text] The official farewell ceremony for Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko of Japan took place at the Chiang Mai International Airport this morning.

At 0935, the Japanese emperor and empress, accompanied by their royal highnesses Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon and Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, traveled by a specially-arranged automobile from the Chiang Mai Orchid Hotel to the Chiang Mai Airport.

At the airport, on behalf of the Thai Government, Deputy Prime Minister Police General Phao Sarasin and his wife reported to the Japanese royalty at the farewell ceremony.

Also present at the ceremony were Chiang Mai Provincial Governor Chanasak Yuwabun and his wife, ambassadors, diplomats, consuls stationed in Chiang Mai, senior government officials, and public citizens.

Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon escorted the Japanese emperor to the platform to receive salutes from the combined honor guards from Air Division 41 and Army Region Unit 33 in Chiang Mai.

The band played the Japanese national anthem and Thailand's royal anthem.

The Japanese emperor and empress greeted those who were there to see them off.

Shortly after 1000, the Japanese royal couple boarded the special plane. The plane then departed from Chiang Mai Airport for Kuala Lumpur.

After that, his royal highness Crown Prince Wachiralongkon and her royal highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon boarded the Royal Thai Air Force plane to return to Bangkok. The plane left the airport at about 1030.

Official on Geneva Property Rights Meeting

*BK2709153191 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai
1030 GMT 26 Sep 91*

[Text] Yanyong Phuangrat, an expert on intellectual property and head of the official Thai negotiating team on intellectual property in the context of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade, or GATT, reported on the official-level 16-20 September meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. According to him, progress has been made and every party is satisfied with the results. Problems unsolved during the previous meeting were discussed at the meeting. Regarding intellectual property protection, the officials agreed that any further discussion must wait

until an agreement has been reached at the next Uruguay round to be held in October, which will also be the final meeting of the official group.

Yanyong said a conclusion to the intellectual property issue involves a consensus on the rules and criteria on registration for protection. The meeting also studied the mechanism to deal with disputes. Three options were proposed by member countries. India believes there is no need for injured-party countries to specify retaliatory measures against violations, but that decisions should be based on a mechanism to deal with disputes. The United States proposal on the dispute-mechanism was similar to the one proposed at the Uruguay round of talks—that there should be no special mechanism, therefore allowing retaliation to be liberal. New Zealand thinks that there should be a special mechanism to deal with disputes over intellectual property violations in order to facilitate a compromise in the first place. However, settlement of the disputes should be the responsibility of a jury of experts representing all member countries.

Yanyong said that although no specific option was chosen, it seemed to him that most countries favored the third option as it leaves the choice open for various kinds of retaliation by injured-party countries. For instance, Thailand can retaliate through intellectual property rights against any damage on its farm exports. Yanyong also reported the meeting reached agreements on patent and trademark protection.

Spokesman on Thai-Cambodian Border Situation

*BK2909082091 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 0530 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Text] There are no events occurring along the Thai-Cambodian border which would have a serious impact on Thailand. However, there have still been some criminal cases, weapons smuggling, and refugees escaping from their camps for jobs in Thai territory. On the problem of robbery, General Narudon Detpradiyut, advisor to the National Defense Institute and acting director of the Information Office of the Supreme Command Headquarters, briefed the press as follows:

[Begin Narudon recording] There have been less robbery cases lately. Following an instruction of the supreme commander, the combined military and police task forces have launched active and serious patrolling and suppression operations, thus decreasing acts of banditry. Recently, Cambodian bandits changed their targets of robbery from Thai villagers to their fellow countrymen. Some groups of bandits even robbed those in the refugee camps. Moreover, Thai people in border villages have also put up self-defense activities. They attended training courses, set self-defense measures, and organized security guards in conjunction with military and police officers. Because of this, the bandits were scared and dared not touch certain areas. [end recording]

TNA, XINHUA Sign News Exchange Agreement

BK2709120391 Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese 25 Sep 91 p 16

[Text] Prasit Hitanan, director general of the Public Relations Department, told reporters at the Thai Embassy in China on 23 September that he had signed an agreement with China's XINHUA news agency on an exchange of news with the Thai News Agency [TNA]. XINHUA is China's largest news agency. The agreement is valid for one year and will be renewed annually if there are no changes.

Prasit said the TNA-XINHUA exchanges is good news for media circles. The TNA is the 72d news agency to conclude such an agreement with XINHUA. However, the TNA has a policy of gathering news from all parts of the world in order to replenish its news network, thus enabling it to rapidly release all international news. The TNA also plans to conclude a similar agreement with TASS of the Soviet Union and Japan's KYODO News Service.

Commerce Minister on PRC Trade Targets

BK2709132791 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] At the Commerce Ministry this afternoon, Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on briefed newsmen on the results of the visit of Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and his delegation to the PRC from 22 to 25 September. He said that Thailand and China had targeted a bilateral trade volume of about U.S. \$1 billion to \$2 billion. Thailand's major exports to China are rice, sugar, rubber, and tapioca products, while Thailand imports mainly steel, livestock, farm products, and cotton from China. The two countries are expected to carry out more activities to promote bilateral trade and investment. Thailand will try to explore potential markets for Thai products and will also hold trade exhibitions in China.

Ministry To Continue Intervention in Rice Market

BK2809014891 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Sep 91 p B1

[Text] The Commerce Ministry will continue to intervene in the rice market despite significant local rice price increases, Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on has affirmed. The main crop of some 18 million tonnes is to hit the market soon.

Amaret was optimistic that rice price this year would be favourable given the shrinking harvest in other rice producing countries, as a result of successive natural disasters.

According to the minister, the authorities place priority on stabilizing prices of prime quality rice in anticipation that the measure will improve rice prices across the board.

The ministry is yet to announce minimum target price for the main crop which is to enter the market in December. Amaret said the target price will be made public once the government completes the final survey of the main crop.

According to Amaret, the ministry will reimburse the government's Bt [baht] 3 billion crop fund for use in the price-stabilizing programme for the main crop this year.

The minister, meanwhile, has ordered a probe into the shipment of Thai rice to Iraq whose payment was not collected because US banks refused to release Iraqi assets.

Saving Iraqi Rice Deal Urged

BK3009021591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Sep 91 p 17

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on has called on everyone concerned to help Thai rice exporters save a controversial 5,000-million-baht rice deal with the Baghdad Government.

Mr Amaret said the possible failure of this deal could adversely affect next year's rice crop prices.

American commercial banks had refused to release Iraqi assets to pay for 600,000 tons of rice ordered from Thailand, the shipment of which still was pending.

The Chase Manhattan Bank in New York claimed the Bush Administration had warned its New York office to suspend Iraqi assets by saying it would violate the United Nations resolution. The resolution had allowed each government holding Iraqi assets to make the final decision on whether to release the assets.

Thai rice exporters had tried to contact Thai Ambassador to the UN, Nit Phibusongkhram, to seek special permission from the UN Security Council to release Iraq's frozen assets to pay for the order.

The exporters also urged the Thai Government to support them in their attempts to save the rice deal, as they believed Washington may be trying to force the Iraqi Government to scrap its 5,000-million-baht rice deal with them.

In a related development, Mr Amaret hinted that the rice policy for the next year may reduce the importance of selling rice under the Government-to-Government basis as in the past several years the Government had made heavy losses. It also was unclear whether the policy had a positive impact on shoring up rice prices.

Mr Amaret said the Government might still need to intervene in the market to help shore up prices.

Burmese Student Leader Applauds Dissident Policy*BK2809023291 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
28 Sep 91 p 2*

[Text] Manerplaw—A leader of the All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) praised the Thai Government yesterday for its decision to set up a camp in Ratchaburi Province to house Burmese dissidents seeking political asylum.

Thiri Nyunt, a joint secretary of the ABSDF, who is attending the annual ABSDF conference in Manerplaw to choose new executive leaders, said the camp reflects Thailand's hospitality towards Burmese dissidents.

The camp will be a safe place for Burmese students and also prevent some students creating trouble in Thailand, he said.

The camp, scheduled to be finished within three months, will be located at an old Border Patrol Police camp to be renovated by the Interior Ministry at a cost of 3.5 million baht.

It will accommodate 1,500 Burmese students and politicians who fled Rangoon's suppression of a pro-democracy uprising in 1988.

The Burmese Government reportedly disagrees with the camp being established, preferring Thai authorities to repatriate the students.

Burmese dissidents, who live in Bangkok and receive a monthly allowance from the United Nations' High Commissioners for Refugees (UNHCR), also voiced opposition to the camp, saying it would serve as a detention centre to facilitate their repatriation.

Thiri Nyunt said the Thai Government must reassure the students that the camp will be used only as a shelter.

Suchinda Takes Over as New Supreme Commander*BK3009144191 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Text] A ceremony was held today at the Office of the Supreme Commander, Supreme Command Headquarters, to mark a change of leadership at the supreme command. Supreme Commander General Sunthon Khongsomphon and Army Commander in Chief General Suchinda Khrapayun signed the documents for a transfer of responsibilities from the retiring supreme commander. Army Commander Gen. Suchinda will as of tomorrow take over as the new supreme commander in service to his majesty in keeping with the royal command appointing him as supreme commander concurrently with his present post of army commander in chief.

After the document signing ceremony, the supreme commander and the army commander in chief presided over a ceremony and parade of the honor guards of the three armed forces at the public ground of the Supreme Command Headquarters in honor of the retiring

supreme commander. There are altogether 120 officers of the Supreme Command who retire this year.

Suchinda Denies Conflict With Predecessor*BK2709012991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
27 Sep 91 p 6*

[Text] Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khrapayun yesterday denied he was engaged in a conflict with his predecessor, Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, even though he had warned him publicly not to cause trouble over the constitution.

Gen Suchinda advised Gen Chawalit indirectly in a recent press interview not to cause trouble among university students and politicians by pushing for a more democratic constitution.

The warning following a visit by Gen Chawalit, the leader of the New Aspiration Part [NAP], to Ramkhamhaeng University last week.

Gen Suchinda warned his former commander not to try to create "political confusion" during his election campaign.

The NAP leader is currently visiting the United States and Canada.

NAP secretary-general Prasong Sunsiri said Gen Chawalit was visiting North America at the invitation of certain US senators and had not left home to avoid a political confrontation or to undergo medical treatment for rumoured heart problems.

Gen Chawalit is now in Washington visiting his host and State Department officials and will also visit Thai residents in Los Angeles.

He is also scheduled to travel to Vancouver to meet the Canadian deputy prime minister before returned home early next month.

Gen Suchinda yesterday confirmed that the military would not tolerate politicians causing any confusion or discontent.

He said he had only mentioned Gen Chawalit in a "simple way" which carried no complicated or profound meaning.

The Army chief, when asked to comment on Solidarity Party plans to publicly criticise the National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] at Sanam Luang, said the party was within its rights provided it did not stray from the confines of the law.

Gen Suchinda is concurrently NPKC vice chairman.

Interior Minister Itsaraphong Nunphakdi said yesterday everybody had the right to make public speeches at Sanam Luang if they did not cause troubles for anyone else.

Solidarity members could criticise the NPKC if they acted within the law, said Gen Itsaraphong, the concurrent NPKC secretary-general.

Gen Itsaraphong, asked to react to claims that the NPKC had failed to keep its promises to the people made shortly after the February 23 coup, said: No one has kept its word as well as the NPKC."

The NPKC has followed the interim constitution closely and is "most sincere" towards all the Thai people, he said.

Retiring Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong declined to comment on the solidarity move other than to say it was the party's own business.

Gen Sunthon will retain the chairmanship of the NPKC after his retirement as head of the armed services at the end of this month.

Gen Itsaraphong said the recent poll showing most people opposed the party-slate voting system was something to be lodged with the Constitution Scrutiny Committee.

Kaset Stresses Passage of Draft Constitution

*BK2709121791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
27 Sep 91 pp 1, 3*

[Text] National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] vice chairman ACM [Air Chief Marshall] Kaset Rotchananin yesterday insisted for the second time that the Anan Panyarachun Government will have to resign if the draft constitution does not pass the National Legislative Assembly [NLA].

The Air Force Commander-in-Chief first made the comment on Saturday to the surprise of legal experts who have since pointed out that the draft charter has nothing to do with the Government.

Reporters yesterday asked ACM Kaset about the comment again and he replied: "By political etiquette, the Government is the one to propose the highest law in the NLA. If it does not pass the assembly, the Government should show its spirit and resign."

"For example, if the Government loses a financial bill, it would have to resign. But if it doesn't resign, it's all right... that's Thai style," Kaset said.

Asked if the constitution was not more a matter of the NPKC than the Government, ACM Kaset said: "The Government proposed it. We didn't force anything. We are not involved in the drafting of the charter."

In accordance with the interim charter, the NPKC had appointed the NLA which then appointed 20 of its members to the Constitution Drafting Committee. When the draft was completed, Mr Michai Ruchupan, in his capacity as chairman of the drafting committee,

presented the draft constitution to the NLA. The Government did not present the draft to the assembly and was not involved in any process having to do with the draft.

Furthermore, the interim charter states that if the NLA rejects the draft then it would have to come up with a new one. If this draft again does not get the approval of two-thirds of the assembly, the NLA will be dissolved. Only at this stage will the Government become involved. Together, the Government and the NPKC will pick one of the previous constitutions for adjustment and promulgation.

ACM Kaset added, however, that he did not think there would be any problems with the draft constitution.

Asked if the current situation in the country necessitated resignation of the Government, ACM Kaset said that if the Government did not put the country into a chaotic situation then it could continue to administer the country.

Political observers fear that the NPKC and the Anan Government were coming increasingly into conflict, particularly since the administration has balked on the military request for additional money—including a budget to buy jet fighters for the Air Force.

ACM Kaset commented yesterday that national development covers several aspects and the Government could not concentrate only on the economic side because this could lead to military weakness.

"Kuwait used to be a very rich country but it was overrun in one day," ACM Kaset said, adding that the Government would have to consider the military request.

The military arms acquisitions were mostly long-term projects and it could not be left in limbo since it could put the country in danger, ACM Kaset said.

Apart from the new squadron of F-16 jet fighters which the Government had approved for the Air Force, ACM Kaset said that his agency was also considering replacements for aging OV-10 and T-33 light aircraft.

Asked about the possibility of transferring the assets investigation against politicians of the last government to the courts, ACM Kaset said that whatever leads to justice is fine by him.

Sunthon Rejects Call To Drop Draft Constitution

*BK2909042091 Bangkok THE NATION in English
29 Sep 91 p A2*

[Text] Outgoing Supreme Commander Gen Sunthorn Khongsomphong yesterday brushed aside a call by politicians and a group of labour activists for the National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC) to drop the draft constitution and use the previous charter instead.

Sunthon, who is also NPKC chairman, described the politicians as "trouble makers."

"It's not their duty to decide which constitution would be used because they are not members of the National Assembly. They can air their views, though," he said.

Political parties have urged the NPKC and the National Assembly to use the 1978's Constitution which was dismantled during the Feb 23 coup. Yesterday, a group of labour activists, calling themselves the Labour Confederation for Democracy, threw their support behind the call by filing the proposal with Wira Pitrachat, who is spokesman of National Assembly committee scrutinizing the draft.

Sunthon denied that the NPKC intended to "destroy" politicians.

"Why do we have to destroy them when we are all friends? Soldiers' duty is to destroy outside enemies," he said.

—Gen Sunthon yesterday downplayed the project to establish the Armed Forces Special Warfare Command which he described as a planning unit rather than a combatant force.

Answering reporters' questions at Bang Pakong Industrial Community, Sunthon said that the command would comprise only a commander and a team of staff officers to be transferred from the Supreme Command's Joint Operations Centre.

"Let me make it clear here no new force will be established under the project. What will be done is seconding men from various units to work at the new command," he said.

He said the plan had been in existence for a long time and was revised at a recent seminar.

Sunthon declined to answer how much money the Supreme Command wants from the government to fund the project.

"This has nothing to do with the budget because the officers to work at the command would be taken from the Joint Operations Centre," he said.

National Assembly Approves Record 17 New Laws

*BK2809020791 Bangkok THE NATION in English
28 Sep 91 p A3*

[Text] It may be a rare event in the legislative history of Thailand—17 pieces of new legislation passed during a three-hour sitting of the National Assembly yesterday.

The passage of all the new pieces of laws, except one, were made without debate and most of them in three straight readings.

And it was the debate on the Household Registration bill that summed up the overall atmosphere of yesterday's

sitting—only 71 assembly men, 26 short of what requires to make a quorum, were in the meeting room when voting was called to pass the bill.

When the interim legislative body, often called the military's rubber stamp, opened its session at 9.30 am only 195 of the overall 292 members were present.

Two shipping laws were passed in their third reading without debate.

Assembly President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin and his first deputy Asa Meksawan then excused themselves to attend a government reception party for the visiting Japanese emperor and empress.

The second vice president, Wichit Kulayawat, then chaired the meeting and twelve more land bills were passed in three straight readings.

When the assembly started to deliberate the Household Registration bill in its third reading around 10.30 am, many assemblymen were seen packing their papers in attache cases, ready to leave the meeting room.

The meeting room at this time was practically deserted with military officials who dominate the interim legislative body being absent.

The debate focused on how much the people should pay district offices for household registration—Bt [baht] 5 or Bt10.

The household bill was then passed in the third reading with 97 people voting for the Bt10 fee and one against.

The assembly then passed the last legislation in three straight readings to increase the number of the board of directors of the Airports Authority of Thailand to 15.

Vietnam

President Bush's Arms Reduction Address Reported

*BK2909022091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Sep 91*

[Text] On 27 September, U.S. President Bush, in a televised speech to the nation, announced the U.S. unilateral decision on reduction of U.S. nuclear weapons. He said: The U.S. will destroy all strategic arms on land and remove nuclear cruise missiles from submarines and warships.

President Bush also called on the Soviet Union to make a similar reduction on nuclear weapons.

Tran Quang Co Holds Talks in Washington, D.C.

*BK2809150691 Hanoi VNA in English 1431 GMT
28 Sep 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 28—Tran Quang Co, deputy foreign minister and head of the Vietnamese delegation

to the current 46th session of the United Nations General Assembly, arrived in Washington Thursday to meet with John Vessey, special envoy of the U.S. President, before the latter's visit to Vietnam scheduled for early October this year.

While there, Tran Quang Co also met at the office of the U.S. Senate with Senators Frank Murkowski, John McCain and Robert Smith.

Relations With PRC, U.S. Embargo Discussed

*OW2909034991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in Mandarin
0830 GMT 26 Sep 91*

[Commentary by station current events commentator]

[Text] At the Seventh National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], General Secretary of the CPV Central Committee Do Muoi said firmly that Vietnam hopes to be a friend to all countries in the world. This statement has received responses from many countries. In this connection, a station commentator on current events wrote a commentary.

The commentary says: The statement made by General Secretary of the CPV Central Committee Do Muoi that Vietnam hopes to be a friend to all countries in the world has received and is receiving responses from many countries. Those responses were particularly clear during September.

After 10 years of abnormal relations between Vietnam and China, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam visited China in early September this year and was ceremoniously received by China. The visit by the Vietnamese foreign minister has formally paved the way for the first high-level meeting between Vietnam and China in the near future since 1979. This shows that Vietnam and China are gradually realizing normalization of their relations. Meanwhile, there are signs that economic, postal, and aviation relations will be established soon. In fact, the two countries are developing border trade at present. As predicted by China's RENMIN RIBAO, the border trade between China and Vietnam will continue to expand in the future.

While a series of major developments are taking place in relations between Vietnam and China, meaningful things between Vietnam and Thailand have also emerged. Thai Foreign Minister Sarasin paid a three-day formal friendly visit to Vietnam. The visit has turned relatively cool relations, which lasted for many years between the two countries, into warm relations. During the visit by the Thai foreign minister, the two sides made concrete plans for a formal friendly visit to Thailand by the head of the Vietnamese Government, Vo Van Kiet. The two sides also signed an agreement on establishing a combined economic committee and an agreement on encouraging and protecting investment. In particular, after the Thai foreign minister's visit to Vietnam, the Thai side has immediately taken a number of positive steps to materialize those agreements signed with

Vietnam. Thai Foreign Minister Sarasin also urged Thai businessmen to take a new attitude on trade with Vietnam. According to a statement made by a vice minister of the Thai Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation, Thailand will help Vietnam develop agriculture, especially in the fields of animal husbandry and the processing of vegetables and fruits.

At the same time, Singapore in Southeast Asia has continued to make significant investment in Vietnam. It was learned that as of now Singapore has made six plans for investment in Vietnam with a total investment of \$17 million, ranking second among countries which have made investment in Vietnam. Thailand ranks first in making investment in Vietnam with a total investment of more than \$36 million.

In September, the World Bank announced that it would provide loans to Vietnam at any time. Phillip Annez, representative of the World Bank in Bangkok, has clearly pointed out that the World Bank is willing to resume assistance to Vietnam at any time. The key lies in opening the green light by the seven major industrialized countries of the world. Phillip Annez noted that at present the World Bank has prepared to help Vietnam develop the (Jilongjiang) Plain, energy sources, public health, secondary education, and transportation.

Vietnam's desire to be a friend to all countries in the world is apparently receiving favorable responses from various countries and international organizations of the world.

Only the United States is running in the opposite direction from the tide of various countries in the world. The United States has just announced the extension of an embargo against Vietnam for another year. However, it can be said with certainty that the U.S. action can never influence the situation that various countries in the world have cooperated or are cooperating with Vietnam.

Communique Issued on Refugee Repatriation Talks

*BK2809151691 Hanoi VNA in English 1359 GMT
28 Sep 91*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 28—Talks were held here from Sept. 23-27 between delegations of the Vietnamese, British and Hong Kong Governments to discuss measures to stop the illegal departure of Vietnamese asylum seekers and additional means of accelerating the rate of return to Vietnam of those who do not qualify as refugees.

The Vietnamese delegation was led by Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan and the British Hong Kong delegation by Assistant Deputy Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Robert Andrew Burns.

Representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (HCR) and the World Organization of Migration (IOM) also attended.

A joint press statement on the talks was released, saying among other things:

"This meeting follows earlier discussions and exchanges this year with Vietnam about the problems posed in Hong Kong by the arrival of large numbers of Vietnamese migrants. It was agreed that this inflow had to be stemmed to avoid undermining the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA).

"There was a productive and detailed discussion of possible alternative methods of accelerating the rate of return of illegal immigrants with a view to reinforcing the CPA provision that such persons should return to their country of origin in accordance with international practice.

"The United Kingdom and Hong Kong representatives welcomed the greater efforts being made by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to discourage clandestine departures and UNHCR's complementary information programmes.

"It was noted that the cash payment provided to those returning to Vietnam has become an incentive for departure rather than return. Consequently, UNHCR announced that the level of cash assistance would be reduced drastically with immediate effect for all asylum seekers arriving from Vietnam in places of first asylum after 27 September 1991.

"There was agreement in principle on the need to implement measures to achieve an accelerated rate of return. Further discussions, including consultation in capitals, are envisaged in the near future to take the work forward".

U.S. Cooperation Urged in Refugee Problem

*BK3009135191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 30 Sep 91*

[Station commentary on "The latest drive for voluntary repatriation of asylum seekers from Hong Kong"]

[Text] Last weekend, Vietnam received 264 voluntary repatriates who had illegally left for Hong Kong. This brings the total number of voluntary repatriates to 10,000. In this connection, the Voice of Vietnam has this comment:

Since March 1989, Vietnam has been prepared to receive back all those who have illegally left for Hong Kong and voluntarily repatriated. Since then, over 10,000 people have been voluntarily repatriated in 68 batches. This figure itself cannot reflect [as heard] Vietnam's good efforts in solving this problem. To make the new returnees to be at ease to live in the country, they were warmly welcomed home and joined their families. They have (been given) favorable conditions by the local administration to find jobs according to their wish, and their children are allowed to go to school. In short, there

are no prejudices against the newly repatriated. This gives rise to the increasing number of voluntary repatriates.

Mr. (Januar), head of the Asia and Oceania Department of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva, at a ceremony to welcome home 264 repatriates from Hong Kong last week, highly appreciated Vietnam's great efforts and goodwill in this work. However, Vietnam held that the warm welcome and good treatment toward the voluntary repatriates are only one of the measures to solve the question of illegal departures to Hong Kong. More simultaneous measures should be taken to basically stop the illegal flow.

At present the economic situation in Vietnam is getting better than previous years. This was acknowledged by Mr. Brown, a member of Hong Kong Parliament, after his trip to Vietnam. He said: Vietnam is making progress in its economic reform. This promises positive changes in the country. Mr. Brown also affirmed that completely solving the question of illegal departure of Vietnamese needs not only efforts of Vietnam but also of the world community, especially the normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations.

People of concern the world over have come to realize that the illegal departure of Vietnamese is closely linked to the normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations. For this very reason, the world public, especially those in the United States, is demanding that the United States lift the embargo against Vietnam and normalize its relations with Vietnam as soon as possible. Vietnam has been making efforts to solve the question of illegal departure and its efforts have won world-wide support. If all the countries, especially the United States, act likewise, the flow of illegal departure will be checked.

Foreign Investments in Quang Nam-Da Nang Grow

*BK2709051491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 23 Sep 91*

[Text] Since early this year, more than 102 international delegations have visited Quang Nam-Da Nang Province to make feasibility studies on joint ventures with Vietnam in forestry, exploitation of mineral ores and maritime products, and drinking water production.

So far, the state has granted licenses to 10 projects, two of them—the Bong Mieu mineral ore exploitation corporation and the maritime product enterprise—with a total investment capital of \$20.6 million, are already in operation.

Moreover, a number of companies have presented projects on planting eucalyptus and willow trees for paper production, and on tourist joint ventures with a total investment capital of more than \$4 million.

Delay in Publicizing Draft Amendments Explained

*BK2909155991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Sep 91*

[Council of State Communique]

[Text] On 28 September 1991, the Council of State met under the chairmanship of Chairman Vo Chi Cong.

1. At the recommendation of the chairman of the Council of State and the chairman of the Committee for Constitutional Amendment and because of the engagements of the various localities during October and November, after seeking the opinions of National Assembly delegates and listening to the views of Council of Ministers representatives, the Nationalities Committee and standing committees of the National Assembly, in order to allow the people to contribute their opinions to the draft amendments to the 1980 Constitution, the Council of State has decided to extend the deadline for publicizing the draft amendments to the Constitution and for soliciting the people's opinion on these amendments to December 1991 and January 1992 respectively. The 11th session of the National Assembly will be convened by late February or early March 1992 to ratify the amendments to the Constitution and a decree on the organization of the state mechanism.

The Council of State also recommended the agenda of the tenth session of the National Assembly be convened in December 1991. The agenda will be sent to National Assembly delegates to solicit their views.

2. The Council of State heard a report from Phan Van Khai, first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers on the serious damage caused by the flash floods in the Mekong River delta provinces. The Council of State conveyed its cordial regards to the compatriots who have suffered losses in life and property. The Council of State commended the people in many provinces and cities nationwide for having initiated funds to assist these victims. The Council of State and responsible ministries and sectors at the central level are continuing to take emergency measures to help the victims overcome the consequences of the flash floods so that they can quickly stabilize production and life.

3. The Council of State heard a report on the official friendship visit to Cambodia of our National Assembly delegation led by Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, from 15-21 September 1991. The Council of State warmly praised and highly evaluated the fine results of the visit, which has contributed to strengthening the traditional friendship and solidarity of the two national assemblies and peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia.

Mass Mobilization Organs Study Resolutions

*BK3009091991 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
6 Sep 91 p 1*

[Report by Nguyen Trong Bao]

[Text] A conference was held by the executive committee of the bloc of central mass mobilization organs recently to discuss plans for the implementation of the party Central Committee Secretariat's directive on seeking a profound understanding of the Seventh Party Congress resolutions and convening the second-round party organization congresses at various levels. Attending the conference were Comrade Truong My Hoa, secretary of the Party Central Committee, and representatives from the Party Central Organization Department and Ideology and Culture Department.

The conference unanimously agreed that in the immediate future (September 1991), all party committees and party chapters must coordinate actively with delegates to the Seventh Party Congress and the comrade heads of various organs in satisfactorily directing the drive to seek a profound understanding of the fundamental viewpoints of the Seventh Party Congress resolutions and the (revised) party statutes, especially among party members and delegates to party organization congresses at various levels, and review the ideological level of party members and the masses along with dispelling their worries about complex changes in the new situation. They must also pay great attention to drawing on experience in and changing the forms and methods of studying the Seventh Party Congress resolutions and party's ideological work in a way that suits the characteristics and knowledge of everyone. This is aimed at ensuring that all party members, workers, and civil servants at various organs truly and thoroughly understand, in terms of ideology and action, and reach a high identity of views on various fundamental viewpoints of the Seventh Party Congress resolutions.

The conference affirmed that the convening of second-round party congresses at various levels is one of the important tasks of the party organization during the final months of 1991. The party organization of mass mobilization organs must choose the mode of convening congresses from bottom to top and resolutely ensure the requirements, in terms of quality and rapidity, of congresses at various levels in accordance with the regulations of the party Central Committee Secretariat. It is necessary to combine the process of preparing and directing these congresses closely with the task of encouraging cadres and party members to outstandingly fulfill the specialized tasks of their organs and units and actively consolidate and improve the militancy of party organizations and party chapters, thereby satisfying the needs arising from party building work in the new situation. Meanwhile, efforts must be made to urgently prepare for congresses at various levels in every aspect, especially reports of the executive committee and draft plans for political work of the party organization in its next term of office. It is necessary to formulate plans for consolidating party committees and party chapters and ensuring the criteria and quotas for age groups and a suitable structure, while boldly and realistically rejuvenating the party committee echelons. It is also necessary to change the leadership of all party committee echelons

over these congresses in the direction of truly promoting democracy, without coercion but with supervision, to ensure scrupulousness and rigorousness in party activities.

Nguyen Ha Phan at Kien Giang Party Congress

*BK2709121991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Sep 91*

[Report by station correspondent Nguyen Chinh]

[Text] From 23-26 September, Kien Giang Province held its fifth second-round party congress in Rach Gia town. Comrade Nguyen Ha Phan, secretary of the party Central Committee, attended the congress.

Nearly 7,000 party members and 2,600 people contributed their opinions on economic, cultural, social, security, and national defense matters to the congress report.

In the 1986-1990 term, the Kien Giang provincial party committee creatively implemented the resolutions of the sixth national party congress and other resolutions of the party Central Committee.

Evaluating the achievements scored in the 1986-1990 period, the congress agreed that they were important initial results creating conditions for stable development in the future.

However, in this period, some weaknesses also showed up clearly: the development of major economic areas is still limited and not synchronized or complete, the state-run economic units are not strong enough to lead the market, and the contingent of cadres is small and not very capable, particularly at the grass-roots level.

The Kien Giang fifth party congress focused the province's efforts on the following duties for the 1991-1995 period: giving absolute loyalty to the party's stance on renovation, striving to overcome any difficulties to completely develop the province's major economic areas, and creating a firm foundation to successfully build socialism.

At present, Kien Giang continues to create favorable conditions for agricultural development by intensifying development of the water works and improving land conditions so the production of 1.2 million tonnes of food can be achieved in 1995. Plants for industrial production such as banana, sugar, coconut, pepper, and peanut are also to be developed.

As for the fishing industry, the province encourages people to invest more money in their fishing boats so they can fish in deep water for longer periods and thereby achieve the production goal of 150,000 tonnes of sea products in 1995.

The processing industries for agricultural, fishing, and forestry products is to receive concurrent investment in

order to produce large amounts of products for export so as to double the export volume in 1995 compared to that of 1991.

The congress elected its new party executive committee of 47 comrades. Speaking at the congress, Comrade Nguyen Ha Phan highly evaluated the congress' results and praised the Kien Giang party committee for its achievements in the past term, creating a foundation for the translation of the seventh national party congress resolutions into real life.

Le Duc Anh at General Staff Department Congress

*BK3009090791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 26 Sep 91*

[Report by unidentified station correspondent]

[Text] The second round party congress of the General Staff Department, an organ of the Ministry of National Defense, was held for four days from 24 to 27 September. The congress was attended by 200 delegates representing 27 party organizations, offices, and units of the department. Attending the congress were also General Le Duc Anh; member of the party Political Bureau, secretary of the party Central Committee, and first vice secretary of the party Military Central Committee; General Doan Khue, member of the party Political Bureau, vice secretary of the party Military Central Committee, and minister of national defense; Senior Lieutenant General Dao Dinh Luyen, member of the party Central Committee and standing member of the party Military Central Committee, and chief of the General Staff Department of the Vietnam People's Army; and some deputy ministers of national defense and deputy chiefs of the General Staff Department.

After listening to the delegates' speeches in the first two days, Comrade Le Duc Anh addressed the congress. He acknowledged the considerable results of the management work of the General Staff Department party committee in the last term.

The party committee continued the party's renovation path, closely worked with the party Central Committee and the party Military Central Committee, built a clean and strong party committee, and improved the department's management structure and working procedures.

At the same time, the party committee also paid attention to improving the material and spiritual life of the department's personnel by successfully implementing social welfare policies in the situation of general socio-economic difficulty.

On that basis, the party committee led the department to fulfill all the duties in conformity with the party's line and policy and state laws, including satisfactorily completing many important duties, helped the Ministry of National Defense develop many strategies on national defense, and successfully implementing the strategic military adjustment on a large scale.

After profoundly analyzing the international situation directly relating to our domestic situation, Comrade Le Duc Anh pointed out the duty of the department's party committee in the new situation: thoroughly understanding the principal concepts of the Seventh National Party Congress resolutions; firmly applying Marxist-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh ideology; and constantly enhancing the total capacity of the party committee.

He said that with the present situation, the whole party committee—while in the leading position as a strategic general staff organ of the Ministry of National Defense—must strengthen its unity, firmly stand in its position, constantly improve its political knowledge, experience, and skills to contribute its important share in maintaining independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and in protecting socialism, the party, Marxist-Leninism, and Ho Chi Minh ideology.

Comrade Le Duc Anh urged the department to correctly evaluate the international situation regarding our country's future, especially the conspiracies and tricks of every kind of the enemy so that we can amend and perfect the strategy of national defense and general staff in all fields, including the political and ideological angle at the local level and the whole country. Doing that successfully we can push back and smash the strategic effects of the peaceful evolution or any other enemy's cunning methods to sabotage our national revolution.

He said: at present, more than ever before, every cadre and party member must thoroughly comprehend the meaning of independence, self-determination, self-reliance, and revolutionary offensive spirit in every position of their work, be it in economic, scientific, or technological areas. Every party member and cadre must be a soldier committed to fight for the political and ideological front. The situation does not allow us the opportunity for hesitation, confusion, or loosening our vigilance. The truth of our revolution has proved that the political struggle is the "life or death" fighting.

Mentioning renovation in the management of the department's party committee to continuously meet requirements from the party and the army, he requested the party heighten the willpower of criticism and self-criticism, correctly judge the real situation of the party committee, organ, and unit by using the work's efficiency or results to assess workers' capacity monthly and quarterly, and pitilessly fight against bureaucratic, careless working attitudes.

Comrade Le Duc Anh emphasized the need to improve the capacity of the department's contingent of cadres. The important thing is that every person must constantly study to thoroughly comprehend the principles of Marxist-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh ideology and to upraise the party's lessons on traditional revolutionary struggle. They must also constantly study to draw new lessons in the work of national defense and national protection so they can firmly march along with the entire party and people in the path chosen by the party and Uncle Ho.

Thai Binh Expels 7,000 Party Members in 4 Years

*BK2709070091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Sep 91*

[Text] During the past four years, Thai Binh provincial party organization expelled from the party more than 7,000 unqualified party members and took disciplinary actions against 12,000 others.

The provincial party organization has also amended its system of appraising performances of cadres and party chapters by basing it on the results of their tasks.

During the past period, the province has replaced 40 percent of the key cadres in localities and reserved a contingent of 2,000 others for villages and wards, including 300 for key agencies.

Murder Cases in Hanoi Increase 'by 14 Percent'

*BK2709064191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Sep 91*

[Text] Over the past nine months, cases of murder in the Hanoi area increased by 14 percent compared with the corresponding period last year. In September, the rate of murder increased considerably, including two cruel cases of murder for money which have caused concern among the people.

The municipal people's committee has taken concrete measures to map out a plan and give guidance for the prompt elimination of crimes and criminals. It has also held a conference to discuss ways of reducing the crime rate in the capital city. This is an important task in the implementation of the Council of Ministers' directive No. 135, aimed at maintaining political security and social order and safety in the capital. The directive calls for sectors and echelons at various levels to improve household management, strengthen reconnaissance, closely monitor the situation, and quickly settle conflicts between households, and so forth. The Hanoi Youth Union should formulate a plan to educate its members and youth so that they can follow a healthy lifestyle. Cultural and information services, radio and television broadcasting stations, and newspapers should formulate plans to carry out a propaganda campaign aimed at building a new cultural family, denouncing crimes and criminals, and opposing immoral acts. They should also launch a campaign to promote preventive measures against crimes and mobilize the people to participate in maintaining social order and safety at grass-roots level.

The Hanoi security steering committee will provide appropriate incentives for units with outstanding performances and criticize or even take disciplinary action against responsible agencies that fail to stop murder cases and settle conflicts between the people.

80,000 H'Mong Families To Settle on New Land*BK2709114591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Sep 91*

[Text] The Forestry Ministry is completing a Settled Farming and Settled Life program for nearly 80,000 H'Mong families until the year 2000. The target of the program is to provide every family with certain means of production so they can live happily on the new land. From now until 1995, every family will be given five hectares of land including two hectares to be used in agricultural production combined with planting of forestry and industrial trees, and three hectares of forest land. They will also be provided with 3-5,000 square meters of land for gardening.

At the moment, the ministry is planning and organizing the allocation of land together with transferring the state-run economic units to back up service organizations. The ministry is also planning more appropriate policies to go with the program.

Hanoi Reviews Agricultural Production Countrywide*BK2609151591 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network
in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 23 Sep 91*

[Text] Localities throughout the country are accelerating the summer-fall and early 10th-month rice harvests. Nearly 90 percent of the summer-fall rice harvest has been completed. Harvest work has been basically completed in the Fourth Zone provinces. Peasants in the southern provinces have completed the summer-fall rice harvest in 1,065,920 hectares of land, thus fulfilling 87.5 percent of the planned norms. As for the Mekong River Delta provinces alone, the summer-fall rice harvest has been completed in 893,000 hectares of land, thus fulfilling nearly 89 percent of the planned norms.

In almost all localities, this year's summer-fall paddy yield is higher than that of last year. Localities in the Fourth Zone have achieved fairly high paddy yield. Particularly, Thue Thien-Hue Province has overfulfilled the targeted summer-fall paddy yield by 14.5 percent, or an increase of nearly 2.64 quintals per hectare compared with that of last year.

The northern localities are concentrating on the early 10th-month rice harvest. Vinh Phu and Thanh Hoa Provinces have achieved more than 35 quintals of paddy per hectare.

To date, the main 10th-month rice transplanting has been completed in 2,465,000 hectares of land nationwide, thus fulfilling nearly 92 percent of the planned norms. Compared with last year's 10th-month rice transplanted area, localities throughout the country have overfulfilled the targeted norms by two percent. After having completed the 10th-month rice transplanting, many northern provinces are now making preparations for winter rice cultivation.

According to the Vegetation Cultivation and Protection Department, harmful insects and diseases are continuing to develop in many localities. More and more rice swarming caterpillars and rice stem borers have developed and affected the 5th-month rice which is in full swing. The impact of brown planthoppers and rice planthoppers is felt mostly in sticky rice growing areas. Caterpillars and planthoppers have affected many rice growing areas in Ha Bac Province.

It is necessary for all localities to take positive measures against harmful insects and diseases capable of affecting rice that bears ears between 20 September and late October, thus guaranteeing high paddy yield at harvest time.

More Reports on Flood Damages, Aid Campaign**Hau Giang Province***BK2609073891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 23 Sep 91*

[Text] The high water levels in the Hau River coupled with flood waters from the north have submerged thousands of hectares of autumn-spring rice in the Thot Not and O Mon districts of Hau Giang province, while damaging almost 700 tonnes of summer-fall rice in some warehouses.

At present, the provincial assault team, comprising members of the public security force and Army units, is participating in a rescue campaign to protect the lives and property of the people and the state.

The provincial steering committee for typhoon and flood control is concentrating efforts on coping with flash floods in various localities—especially in the wet rice planting areas in the Long Xuyen rectangle and near the Hau River—and setting up guiding committees and assault forces at villages, hamlets, and islets on the Hau River to provide assistance to the local people.

Mekong River Delta Area*BK2609152191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 24 Sep 91*

[Text] According to a Ho Chi Minh City-based Voice of Vietnam correspondent, initial reports released by the Southern Provinces Flood and Typhoon Control Committee on losses caused by flash floods in the Mekong River Delta provinces, the water level in headwater localities along the Mekong River has reached the flash flood warning mark. In Moc Hoa alone, this water level has remained at the 4.15 meter-flash flood warning point.

According to still incomplete statistics, to date, as far as all five flash flood-stricken provinces—An Giang, Dong Thap, Long An, Tien Giang, and Kien Giang—are concerned, more than 30,800 hectares of rice have been submerged, including more than 7,500 hectares entirely destroyed; and more than 15,000 hectares of fall-winter

rice have also been flooded, including more than 7,000 hectares that have been entirely ruined. Some 35,000 hectares of early 10th-month and floating 10th-month rice have also been submerged. The flash floods also submerged 102,000 houses, including more than 600 houses that were swept away. In all five provinces affected by flash floods, some 22,000 households comprising more than 100,000 people were evacuated. Some 100 bridges and sluices were destroyed or swept away. Some 500 kilometers of roads were also damaged. The flash floods also submerged 150 infirmaries and more than 500 schools. So far, 55 people were killed by the flash floods. The entire system of sluices and dike embankments bordering the various pumping stations, and irrigation works in various districts in the Dong Thap Muoi area and remote districts in the above-mentioned provinces, was completely destroyed.

Estimates of losses suffered by those flash flood-stricken provinces in the Mekong River Delta stand at about 350 billion dong.

The losses caused to ricefields by this year's flash floods are not as serious as those of 1978 and 1984. However, the damage in material bases is very extensive.

Upholding the spirit of self-reliance, the Mekong River Delta provinces are stepping up efforts to overcome the consequences of flash floods. The current difficulties lie in communications means like boats and rafts as well as in anti-epizootics drugs, which are in short supply.

The flash flood-affected provinces are making positive efforts, particularly in terms of agricultural materials, to get ready for the upcoming winter-spring crop cultivation, in order to make up for the losses caused by recent flash floods.

Dong Thap Province

*BK2809095391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 25 Sep 91*

[Text] A Vietnam radio station correspondent in Dong Thap said the flood in the lower basin of the Mekong River in September 1991, submerged six of the 11 districts and towns in the province.

The four northern districts of Hong Ngu, Tan Hong, Tam Nong, and Cao Lanh were the most badly effected. In these districts, more than 15,000 hectares of summer-fall rice crop were submerged. If the third rice crop is included, the loss is more than 16,000 tonnes of rice. For the entire province, more than 200,000 hectares of rice were submerged by the flood.

The No. 30, An Long, and Tan Hong public roads were flooded. Many infrastructure projects, bridges, storage facilities, schools, and livestock including private property, vegetable plots, and trees were badly damaged.

In the province, 108,000 students could not attend school and more than 1,500 classrooms were ruined.

The total damage caused by the flood is estimated at more than 45 billion dong.

The province is presently working to relieve the damage caused by the flood so that people's lives can speedily return to normal.

Tien Giang Province

*BK3009033091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 27 Sep 91*

[From the daily press review program]

[Text] The paper SAIGON GIAI PHONG today reports that as of 26 September, flash floods had caused heavy damage to Tien Giang Province. About 4,000 houses and 96 classrooms in 17 villages, and more than 54 km of roads were inundated. In Cai Be District, 16,000 hectares of rice were submerged, of which almost 6,000 hectares were completely destroyed.

As of 26 September, the Fatherland Front Committee of Ho Chi Minh City had received more than 1.5 billion dong donated by various organizations, units, and people to help flood victims in the five Mekong River Delta provinces.

Hanoi-Mon Cai Digital Microwave Station Set Up

*BK2709115791 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network
in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 24 Sep 91*

[Summary] "This is the picture of the Post and Telegraph Office of Mon Cai, a border district of Quang Ninh Province, as seen in early September after Mon Cai district completed and put into operation a digital microwave telecommunication system.

"The new high-tech system that Quang Ninh Province and the Post and Telegraph Sector have boldly invested in will not only bring tangible economic benefits to the district but also genuine gladness to all. The number of daily telephone calls from the Mon Cai Post and Telegraph Office have increased sharply from 20 to 80, with the total fees daily amounting to one million dong.

"The people of Quang Ninh, especially those ethnic compatriots in Mon Cai, at the northeastern border, are very pleased that they can now call their relatives in provinces and cities throughout the country and even those living overseas conveniently, quickly, and accurately."

Mon Cai is an important border exit point with several convenient sea and land routes linking Vietnam to China. Recently, with the increasingly improved relations between the two countries, peoples at both sides of the border have been increasing their travels, visits, and trading.

"The Mon Cai digital microwave telecommunication system has been built with a total investment of 21

billion dong, 733 million dong of which the province contributed for building antenna towers."

Engineers and personnel of the Quang Ninh Provincial Post and Telegraph Office have, together with members of the 369th Air Defense Division, the Signal Corps Command, the Telegraph Planning Institute, and the Kasabi Corporation, completed the project as scheduled.

Five antenna towers have been set up within 150 kms. as the crow flies between Hon Gai and Hai Ninh. "In this communication system, there are 12 lines designed for Deo Nai and Cam Pha, six for Quang Ha, and 12 for Mon Cai."

To overcome difficulties arising from rugged terrain, a poor communications system, and frequent theft of telephone wires, "besides the Hanoi-Mon Cai digital microwave communication system which became operational on 29 August," the Quang Ninh Provincial People's Committee "has in coordination with the Post and Telegraph General Corporation and the Vietnam's Post and Telegraph Sector, promptly invested in

building a TDX-1B telephone switchboard to bring the province's backward and inconsistent telecommunications system up to the present-day automated and digitalized technology. Installed in Quang Ninh on 3 May 1991, the 3,200-line TDX-1B telephone network is made up of a main telephone switchboard and two satellite stations—one at Coc-5 and the other at Ha Long."

This telephone switchboard, which can be expanded to a maximum of 22,000 lines with 18 satellite stations, is reported to have been completed after "three months of intensive work" and have been officially integrated into the national telephone network.

"Accepting and operating the new telecommunications system have been a great advantage for Quang Ninh. But this has also required the province to make greater efforts to overcome weaknesses in its technical and operational management skills.

"We are looking forward to welcoming more clear-cut and effective changes in the post and telegraph sector of Quang Ninh Province in the years to come."

Australia

Hawke Welcomes Bush's Arms Reduction Initiative

BK2809035291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0327 GMT
28 Sep 91

[Text] Canberra, Sept 28 (AFP)—Australia's Prime Minister Bob Hawke on Saturday welcomed U.S. President George Bush's arms reduction initiative, describing it as "the single most decisive step for world peace since the nuclear age began nearly 50 years ago."

Hawke said in a statement the U.S. decision to reduce its nuclear arsenal constituted the most sweeping act of unilateral disarmament in modern history.

The proposals for further arms reductions "promised to reshape fundamentally the nature of global relationships," he said.

"In an act of great imagination, vision and courage, George Bush has moved the world a step back from the brink of nuclear annihilation," Hawke said. "He has shown us how the nuclear anguish can end."

"Those actions confirm his place among the handful of statesmen who change the world immeasurably for the better. And they confirm the greatness of the country he leads," Hawke said.

The prime minister said he had sent a message to Bush this morning congratulating him on his achievement.

He said Australia would now look to the Soviet Union. "I have sent messages to Presidents Gorbachev and Yeltsin urging them to respond in the same spirit, a spirit worthy of George Bush's proposals and of their own achievements," Hawke said.

"I hope other nuclear powers will also in turn respond in a similar spirit," he said.

New Zealand

Bolger: Bush Speech Reason To Improve Ties

BK2809063291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0627 GMT
28 Sep 91

[Text] Wellington, Sept 28 (AFP)—New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger said Saturday he hoped France would reconsider its nuclear test programme at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific now that U.S. President George Bush had "opened a new era in international relations."

Mr. Bolger was asked at a press conference here whether he hoped the unilateral disarmament programme announced by the president would mean an end to the tests.

"Yes I do. I would be hopeful that France would reconsider its Mururoa tests," he replied.

"France will have to ask itself what it's aiming to achieve. But that's a question that will be answered further down the track."

Mr. Bolger praised President Bush's announcement as historic and far-reaching.

"The measures constitute a huge step forward in the effort to put an end to the prospect of nuclear war," he said.

"It is a step of global significance."

Bolger said he would also seek new ways to improve his government's relationship with the United States following Bush's announcement which he said had "clear significance" for New Zealand.

"While it's too early to speculate on details, I believe we should use this moment to try to resolve the differences between the United States and New Zealand," he said.

Mr. Bolger would not discuss further the new opportunities but hinted the government would be prepared to make major decisions.

"We should, in some ways, be as bold as Bush," he said.

New Zealand's anti-nuclear policy does not permit U.S. warships to enter the country's ports because the Government does not accept the neither-confirm-nor-deny (NCND) American policy on whether their vessels are nuclear-armed.

Because of that, the U.S. will not co-operate with New Zealand on military or defence matters.

The New Zealand Government has been striving since it came to office in October last year to improve the relationship without compromising its anti-nuclear legislation.

"Clearly, if U.S. Navy surface vessels are not nuclear-armed then the problem that used to exist doesn't exist any longer," Bolger said but added that the new U.S. attitude did not mean New Zealand's anti-nuclear legislation was redundant and it would stay on the statute books.

Bolger has just returned from a trip to New York where he met Bush. "The dialogue is open and progress has been made. I'll work on that," he said.

Urges Review of ANZUS Treaty

BK3009070691 Melbourne Radio Australia
in English 0500 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] New Zealand has called for a revision of the ANZUS [Australia-New Zealand-U.S. Defense Pact] security alliance linking it with the United States and Australia. New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger said the nuclear weapons cuts announced by President Bush showed it was time for New Zealand to be bold and resolve its differences with the United States.

Speaking in a radio interview, Mr. Bolger emphasized however that New Zealand's nuclear-free policy would not be compromised. Washington broke off military

cooperation with Wellington in 1986 in protest of the policy which prevents nuclear-armed or -powered American warships from visiting New Zealand.

In another New Zealand response to the American move towards disarmament, former Prime Minister David Lange has urged the review of an agreement to buy naval frigates from Australia. New Zealand has agreed to buy up to four of the vessels under a deal worth millions of dollars.

Plans To Review Antinuclear Laws

BK3009100891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0942 GMT 30 Sep 91

[by Michael Field]

[Text] WELLINGTON, Sept 30 (AFP)—The U.S. decision to withdraw nuclear weapons from most of its ships has presented New Zealand with an opportunity to improve ties strained for years by Wellington's anti-nuclear laws.

Prime Minister Jim Bolger said Monday that there would be a review of the anti-nuclear laws, while Disarmament Minister Doug Graham indicated American warships could be back here "fairly soon."

Washington appears to have provided the ruling National Party with a heaven-sent opportunity to dump the anti-nuclear laws it inherited from the previous Labour government and reluctantly endorsed in the lead up to last year's general elections.

Over the weekend President George Bush announced big cutbacks to the U.S. nuclear forces, including taking tactical weapons off its warships, and leaving only strategic nuclear weapons aboard submarines, which have never visited ports here.

Former Prime Minister David Lange introduced laws in 1985 banning nuclear weapons and nuclear power from New Zealand from 1987 onwards and in effect requiring visiting warships to declare they did not carry nuclear weapons.

This was seen by Washington as compromising their policy to "neither confirm, nor deny" the presence of nuclear weapons on ships and led to a breakup of the ANZUS (Australia, New Zealand and United States) pact.

High-level contacts between Washington and Wellington were suspended, a move that only ended last week when Bolger and Bush met at the United Nations in New York.

However the anti-nuclear policy has been popular here and last year, before general elections, Bolger promised his party would abide by it.

Speaking at a press conference after his weekly cabinet meeting, Bolger said: "The issue has now changed. There will not in future be nuclear weapons on U.S. naval ships. At that stage the reasons why they were barred from New Zealand has been removed."

Bolger said he was not going to rush ahead and invite the Americans to send a warship to New Zealand but if Washington were "of a mind to send one, I'd be very happy about that."

Foreign Minister Don McKinnon said Bush's statement represented a rare moment in history "where we have an opportunity to resolve the hard issue blocking a full relationship" between the United States and New Zealand.

"If ever there is a time for New Zealand to reciprocate creatively and positively, that time is now."

Asked when U.S. warships could visit here, Graham replied: "I can't see any reason why they shouldn't arrive fairly soon. They seem to have already started to remove their nuclear warheads from surface vessels. Once that is done I don't see why we shouldn't host a visit."

Opposition leader Mike Moore said New Zealand should be celebrating and not retreating from its anti-nuclear laws.

"If the United States is now prepared to change its policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence of nuclear weapons on vessels visiting New Zealand, our legislation ought to be safe.

"That's fine, and we would welcome such visits under our existing law. But I suspect Mr. Bolger is taking the matter further than what President Bush has indicated."

Ex-Premier on Australia's Defense Perceptions

BK3009112291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1118 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Sept 30 (AFP)—Former Prime Minister David Lange said Monday Australia's ambition to become a middle-ranked world power could cause problems for New Zealand.

As superpower nuclear navies were withdrawn from the Pacific there would be a tendency for Australia to spread its defences as far to the west as India, Lange said in a speech.

Australia had ambitions to be seen as a middle-power and that could cause problems if a power vacuum developed in the Pacific, he said.

Lange said he had recently heard senior Australian politicians who, now that Indonesia was about to sign a treaty of friendship with them, were talking about India as a threat to the region.

Fear of a resurgence of Japanese militarism and of expansionism by mainland China were two other popular concepts across the Tasman.

But Lange said problems from these countries seemed unlikely.

He said Australia would remain New Zealand's ally, "but I don't think we ought to be in it with them if they drag us into projecting further and further west to the Maldives or even India."

